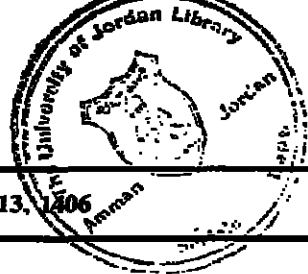


Islamic committee to meet in Dakar

BAHRAIN (R) — A 12-member Islamic Ministerial Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs will meet in Dakar on Thursday to review media and cultural development in Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) member states. An OIC statement said the four-day meeting will be chaired by Senegalese President Abdou Diouf and attended by officials from Senegal, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Gabon, Guinea, Morocco, Iraq, Oman, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, the Maldives and Kuwait. Representatives from the International Islamic News Agency and the Islamic Broadcasting Organisation will also take part. The committee was set up by the Jeddah-based OIC in 1981 to strengthen media bodies in the 43 OIC member states and promote and preserve Islamic heritage. It held its first meeting in Dakar in January 1983.

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Parliament to reconvene Saturday

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued Sunday calling Parliament for its third ordinary session to start on Saturday. His Majesty King Hussein is expected to make an address to the opening meeting of joint houses of Parliament on Saturday in which he will tackle various regional questions. In the first meeting, the Lower House of Parliament will elect a permanent bureau and the House's speaker. The Lower House will also elect four new members for the constituencies of Hebron, Nablus, Tulkarm and Ramallah as representatives of these regions are now dead. The deputies are expected to elect members of the House's financial, legal, administrative and foreign affairs committees.

Howari appointed undersecretary

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Council of Ministers on Sunday decided to appoint Mr. Khalaf Howari as undersecretary of the Ministry of Public Works to replace Mr. Mutaz Belbeisi who will move to the Ministry of Transport as undersecretary. Dr. Nathem Aref, who is currently the Ministry of Transport undersecretary, has been appointed as adviser at the Prime Ministry. Mr. Howari is currently the director of the Public Works Department of Amman Governorate.

Israel seizes 8,000 dunums of Arab land

AMMAN (JNA) — The Israeli authorities have reportedly seized 5,000 dunums of land at Oujia near Jericho and 3,000 dunums near Hebron on the occupied West Bank. Reports reaching here said that the Israeli authorities have informed the land owners of their decision and barred the Arabs from entering their land or cultivating them.

Israelis arrest 14-year-old Arab

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli authorities have arrested a 14-year-old youth in the occupied West Bank for reportedly wearing clothing with the name of Palestine written on it. In another development, the Arabic language newspaper Al Jads of occupied Jerusalem reported Sunday that two Palestinian youths from Beit Likia and Kharabta near Ramallah have been reported missing.

Syria seeks strategic balance with Israel

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian Prime Minister Abdel Rauf Al Kasm said Sunday his country was striving to achieve strategic balance with Israel. "When Syria spends more than half of its revenues on national defence this does not mean that war is its hobby, but it is a fact that the first preference of American parliamentarians of Arab origin, which opened here Saturday,

Jordan 'categorically rejects' direct talks with Israel

Khatib: Jordan's Mideast peace policy unchanged

AMMAN (Agencies) — Jordanian policy on Middle East peace talks remains unchanged, Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib said Sunday.

In a brief statement carried by the Jordanian news agency, Petra, he refuted statements by some American and Israeli officials that Jordan had shifted its position on direct talks with Israel.

"We would like to stress at this particular time that Jordan categorically rejects direct talks or any partial or separate settlement with Israel," the minister said.

Jordan is committed under an agreement with Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), to pursue peace talks jointly with the Palestinians.

Mr. Khatib reaffirmed in the statement that an international conference of all parties concerned, including the PLO, plus the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, remained "the only way for a peaceful, just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian cause."

This concept also was formalised in the February accord between Mr. Arafat and His Majesty King Hussein.

Mr. Khatib did not identify the U.S. and Israeli officials, whose statements followed a recent offer to Jordan by Israeli Prime Minister

Shimon Peres of an immediate end to the state of war between the two countries and direct peace talks.

King Hussein has publicly rejected the offer.

In a separate statement Mr. Khatib stressed Sunday that the Jordan-PLO accord, signed in Amman on Feb. 11, is honoured by both sides.

In a statement quoted by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Siyassah, Mr. Khatib said that the Jordanian and Palestinian sides will shortly meet to make a reassessment of the developments in the Middle East situation.

He was replying to a question whether the accord was still valid or would be cancelled.

The minister said that scrapping the joint accord would not serve the cause of peace, "and therefore Jordan will remain firmly committed to the agreement."

In Cairo Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi said Sunday that Israel is not interested in peace, and its behaviour and actions in Lebanon, the Golan Heights and Jerusalem as well as its inhuman treatment of the Palestinian people

in the occupied territories bear witness to this fact.

Mr. Lawzi's statement was quoted by the Cairo Al Akhbar newspaper in which he also called on the United States "to be just and fair in handling the Middle East issue, and so safeguard its own interests."

"The peace process should not stop simply because Israel is now acting in an aggressive manner, because peace is beneficial for the whole Middle East region," Mr. Lawzi said.

Mr. Lawzi also voiced hope that the next Arab summit in Riyadh expected in November will take a decision for welcoming Egypt back into the Arab fold.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Saturday stressed the importance of the participation of the PLO in any peace settlement, a few days after a reported strain in relations between Egypt and the Palestinian group.

Mr. Mubarak was speaking at a dinner he hosted for visiting Sudanese leader Gen. Abdul Rahman Swareddehab. His speech was carried by the Middle East News Agency (MENA).

"It is not imaginable that peace efforts move forward without the direct and active participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the only legal representative of the Palestinian people," Mr. Mubarak was quoted as saying.



Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai confers in his office Sunday with visiting Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmad. During the meeting, at the prime minister's office, they reviewed Jordanian-Kuwaiti cooperation in information and cultural affairs. The Kuwaiti minister, who left Amman on Sunday night, was also received by Information Minister Mohammad Al Khatib for a discussion on bilateral cooperation (Petra photo)

Rifai reaffirms Jordan's stand on Mideast peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Sunday reaffirmed Jordan's firm position with regard to the Middle East problem.

He said that Jordan seeks a just, durable and comprehensive peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict within the context of an international conference, in which all parties to the conflict and United Nations Security Council members should participate.

The prime minister was addressing a cabinet meeting during which he briefed the ministers on the outcome of the second round of talks he held in Riyadh, last week, with Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Ra'ouf Al Kasm, under the auspices of the Arab mediation

committee entrusted with removing differences among Arab countries.

Mr. Rifai also briefed the cabinet members on the outcome of talks which Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak held with His Majesty King Hussein in Amman last Thursday, and also the outcome of King Hussein's visit to Baghdad on Saturday and talks with President Saddam Hussein.

"Jordan's talks with the leaders of the three countries were in line with the country's national stands and policies of seeking solidarity among Arab countries, with the purpose of settling Arab differences to safeguard higher national interests," Mr. Rifai said.

Moscow: Reagan has 'nothing constructive' to say

MOSCOW (AP) — A Soviet official, in one of several attacks on U.S. President Ronald Reagan's speech to the United Nations last week, on Sunday accused Mr. Reagan of having "nothing constructive" to say about current world problems.

Commentators charged that the president was hypocritical in proposing that the superpowers work to settle regional disputes, saying the United States encourages conflicts by funding anti-government rebels in Angola, Afghanistan and Nicaragua and by "economic stifling of the developing countries."

All the attacks used Reagan's speech as a vehicle to underline the Kremlin's desire to emphasise arms control at the Geneva summit and to continue a recently intensified campaign against U.S. policies abroad and handling of social problems at home.

In his U.N. speech, Mr. Reagan said he looked to "a fresh start" in superpower relations when he meets Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev in Geneva.

Israel wants U.N. to initiate talks with Jordan

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel would like the United Nations Security Council to issue a call for Middle East peace talks between Israel and Jordan, officials said after an acrimonious cabinet meeting Sunday.

Most of the cabinet, which spent six and a half hours debating peace moves, would not object to Soviet and Chinese participation in the call, the officials said.

Israel does not have diplomatic relations with either Communist superpower. The officials acknowledged that some right-wing ministers still opposed any international involvement in launching a new peace initiative.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who returned Saturday from the United States and France, has been sharply criticised by right-wingers over a speech to the U.N. outlining his conditions for direct talks with Jordan.

The officials said some cabinet hardliners, led by Commerce Minister Ariel Sharon, again attacked Mr. Peres Sunday and said his plan would lead to unsympathetic foreign involvement in the negotiating process.

On Monday Mr. Peres will put his proposals to a vote in parliament. If they gain approval, right-wing opponents may be asked to resign from the cabinet, officials said.

Mr. Peres told the cabinet Sunday his main aim was to exclude the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from the peace process. He argued that part of the price for this was to accept foreign involvement, officials said.

"The prime minister said that he now discerns a dramatic change in the international situation of Israel and a prospect for rejecting the PLO and opening negotiations for peace between Israel and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation," a cabinet communiqué said.

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see page

Lebanese militias agree on political reform plan

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Negotiators from Lebanon's three most powerful militias have finally agreed on a political reform plan aimed at ending 10 years of bloody civil war, political sources said Sunday.

The negotiators ended a month of talks in Damascus Saturday night.

The sources said they would present their agreement to a first-ever meeting later this week of the militias' leaders — Nabih Berri of the Shi'ite Muslim Amal, Druze chief Walid Jumblatt and Falangist "Lebanese Forces" leader Elie Hobeika.

If they endorse the Syrian-backed accord, it will go to a "general national conference" of the heads of all Lebanon's warring factions and political parties and leaders next month.

The sources said Mr. Hobeika's top aide, Michael Samaha, was expected to fly to Paris to try to persuade self-exiled Maronite Christian leader Raymond Edde to attend the conference.

They said militia officials had also briefed former Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh on details of the accord, through his son-in-law, Abdulla Al Rasi.

Meanwhile in Beirut, police said sporadic exchanges by tank and mortar fire, which erupted Saturday morning across Beirut's dividing Green Line, persisted until daybreak Sunday, killing five civilians and wounding 13 others.

Falangist radio stations accused the radical Shi'ite Muslim Hezbollah, or Party of God, of shelling Beirut's Christian sector to provoke clashes that could sabotage peace negotiations.

There was no response to the charge from Hezbollah, a fundamentalist faction loyal to Iran's Revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. It opposes the peace talks because of the Christians' former links with Israel.

Hezbollah also is challenging Justice Minister Nabih Berri, whose Amal militia is among those negotiating the peace pact, for leadership of the one million Shi'ites who make Lebanon's largest single sect.

The Lebanese army command, based in east Beirut's suburb of Yarz, said army units along the eastern side of the Green Line came under fire from the western side but were ordered not to retaliate, apparently to avert an escalation in fighting.

Cairo, Khartoum agree to review economic pact

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak and Sudanese leader Abdul Rahman Swareddehab have agreed to review the controversial economic integration agreement between their two countries, a Sudanese official said Sunday.

Lt.-Gen. Youssef Al Hag, a member of the ruling Military Transitional Council, told reporters that an Egyptian-Sudanese committee of experts would begin studying the three-year-old agreement in November or early December to make sure it is "in a sound context."

The committee will submit any recommendations for changes in the agreement to Mr. Mubarak and Gen. Swareddehab, Gen. Hag said.

Gen. Hag briefed reporters following a second round of talks here between Mr. Mubarak and Gen. Swareddehab, who arrived Saturday for a three-day visit. It was Gen. Swareddehab's first visit to Egypt after the April 6 coup that toppled former President Jaafar Numeiri.

name, said the visit was an important step in cementing relations between Egypt and the military-led government in Khartoum.

Relations have been strained by Sudan's restoration of full diplomatic relations with Egypt's archrival Libya and by Sudanese calls for the extradition of Numeiri, who received asylum here after the coup.

Gen. Hag said Egypt and Sudan remain committed to the integration agreement, signed by Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Numeiri in Khartoum in October 1982.

Gen. Hag added, however, that integration between the two Nile Valley neighbours "should be from the ground up, not vice versa." He did not elaborate, but other Sudanese officials have told reporters privately that the benefits of the agreement are not clearly understood by the Sudanese.

Egypt ready to restore ties with Libya

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak said after talks Sunday with Sudan's military leader Abdul Rahman Swareddehab that Egypt was ready to restore relations with Libya immediately if Tripoli acted like a good neighbour.

Egypt and Libya have been at odds over Middle East policy since the October 1973 war with Israel. They fought a border war in 1977.

"Libya is a neighbour and we have no objection at all to restoring relations today, provided Libya adheres to the principles of good neighbourly relations," Mr. Mubarak told reporters after two hours of talks with Gen. Swareddehab.

The Sudanese leader is on a three-day visit to Egypt, his first since the coup last April which ousted Jaafar Numeiri as Sudan's president. Khartoum's growing ties with Libya since the coup, and especially a military protocol, caused concern here.

Mr. Mubarak said Numeiri, to whom Egypt granted political asylum, was not engaged in any political activity against Sudan's present rulers. Refraining from politics was a precondition for any person seeking asylum here, he added.

Mr. Mubarak said he was surprised at a reported statement made Saturday by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad that he was ready to join any front which would be formed, even if it included Egypt, to fight Israel.

"I think Assad does not want a war with Israel and I know that he has attended and agreed to resolutions adopted by the (1982) Fez Arab summit conference in Morocco which called for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

He said the main problem is how to solve the Middle East crisis peacefully and not through war. Mr. Mubarak said he was ready to receive Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat "any time, because we never turn down a request to visit us by anybody."

Relations between Egypt and the PLO were soured after the hijack earlier this month of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro off the Egyptian coast.

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15,500 register for jobs in government institutions

AMMAN (J.T.) — A total of 15,500 applications from job seekers have now accumulated at the Civil Service Commission (CSC) in Amman, and everything possible is being done to find jobs for all applicants depending on their degrees, diplomas and specialisation, CSC Director Ali Khreis announced Sunday.

He said that priority for employment will be given in order of the submission of applications in order to give a fair chance for all to be appointed posts in different government ministries and departments.

Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai recently issued a circular requesting all government departments to coordinate matters with the CSC in appointing personnel to fill vacancies in government departments. This measure is justified in view of the increasing demand for jobs, especially from graduates of universities, community colleges and schools, Mr. Khreis said.

He continued that the CSC will not be influenced regarding filling different vacancies or posts because it wants to offer equal opportunities to all.

The CSC, he said, is capable of handling the new procedures and is coordinating matters with directors of personnel offices in various government departments.



TALHOUNI LAID TO REST — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Sunday attended the funeral of former cabinet minister and member of Parliament Tharwat Al Talhouni who passed away Saturday. His Majesty King Hussein earlier deputed His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the King's personal representative, to convey his condolences to the Talhouni family (Petra photo)

Nsour calls for increased trade exchange with China

Joint Jordanian-Chinese committee begins meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and China Sunday opened talks on ways for developing trade and technical cooperation between them and Jordan called for increased imports by China of Jordanian phosphate, fertiliser and potash.

The talks are being conducted by teams from both sides who form a joint economic committee entrusted with tackling bilateral cooperation. The Chinese side is headed by China's Minister of Chemical Industries Jin Zhong Da who lauded Jordan's policies oriented towards promoting bilateral ties with China. He also said the committee will explore new avenues for cooperation in trade and economic cooperation.

The Jordanian side is led by Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour who said the joint committee was formed following a visit to China in 1983 by His Majesty King Hussein and added that it aims to further bolster bilateral cooperation and friendly ties.

Over recent years, Jordanian-Chinese trade has witnessed remarkable progress but more efforts are still to be made to increase the volume of goods exchanged between the two countries, Dr. Nsour said. He continued that Jordan is interested to increase the sale of its phosphates, fertilisers and potash to China and will discuss with the Chinese side the prospect of launching joint ventures. The minister said Jordan is also concerned with increasing cooperation with China in cultural, technical and scientific affairs.

During the meeting, Dr. Nsour reviewed the different aspects of Jordan's social and economic development projects and explained the country's policy of open and free economic and trade cooperation with all nations.

The two sides agreed to hold a second round of talks Monday to examine a number of proposed schemes.

The 10-member Chinese delegation arrived in Amman Saturday for a week-long visit to Jordan to hold meetings with Jordanian officials. They are also scheduled to tour Jordanian development projects over the coming few days.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Committee discusses Zarqa's 5-year plan

ZARQA (Petra) — The Zarqa municipal committee discussed during its Sunday meeting, chaired by Zarqa Acting Governor Mohammad Al Deb'i, the major projects included in the municipality's forthcoming five-year development plan. Mr. Deb'i, who is also the committee's chairman, said that the municipality has started implementing the first part of the plan which includes building Al Zawahri bridge, expanding Wadi Al Hajar street, widening the old Zarqa-Amman road and setting up islands and planting trees in the city's roads. He also added that the municipality is going ahead with implementing other priority projects.

Bank loans JD 751,000 to local councils

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of JD 751,000 has been granted by the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB) during the past month as loans to municipal and villages councils in the governorates of Amman, Irbid, Karak, and Balqa. The loans will be used to finance road and school projects as well as the purchase of equipment.

Madaba obtains loan for craft zone

MADABA (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) has agreed to grant Madaba Municipality a JD 100,000 loan to complete the crafts zone which is one of the municipality's development projects. Craftsmen in the city have begun to move their stores to the site of the JD 600,000 project.

Flower display opens at Alia gallery

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day exhibition of artificial flowers opened at the Alia Art Gallery in Amman Sunday. Mrs. In'am Al Murfi, special adviser to Her Majesty, Queen Noor, opened the exhibition which displays bouquets of flowers, paintings of flowers and tools used in flower arrangement, prepared by the Hay Al Nahl Daud Cooperative Society. Mrs. Murfi distributed certificates of merit to the society's 23 female students who prepared the flowers displayed at the exhibition which was organised by Mrs. Tulin Al Dajani.

Team prepares for education conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The compulsory education conference preparatory committee reviewed during its Sunday meeting steps and working papers which will be submitted to the conference. The committee also discussed questions related to working papers on curricula and school books, elementary school teachers as well as the dates for completing these research papers.

Exhibition relates absorbing social effects of printing

By Kerstin Wichmann
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A photo exhibition entitled "From Gutenberg to Electronics" opened Saturday at the Goethe Institute under the patronage of Mr. Musa Keilani, the director general of the Press and Publications Department.

In cooperation with the Jordanian Printing Press Owners Association, the German Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations organised the exhibition which will run until Nov. 2 at the German Cultural Centre.

Mr. Perner, the director of the Goethe Institute, introduced and explained the 25 charts on display to the audience.

The richly-illustrated documentary is a cross-section of the historical, technical and social aspects of printing and publishing. Visitors to the exhibition can also gather information about the current standard of Jordanian printing as there are Jordanian publications on display at the exhibition.

The main aim of the exhibition, which has explanatory titles in English and Arabic, is to give the viewer an insight into the historical development of the different printing techniques and to illustrate the close relationship between publications and social life. On display are examples showing how great the printing media's influence on social development can be.

Mentioning Martin Luther, who broke down the well-educated class monopoly of religious knowledge by his bible-translation and created a united German language, the French novelist Jean-Jack Rousseau, who through his novels and philosophical analyses created a great influence on the French revolution and 19th Century Romanticism as well as Karl

Marx, whose printed ideas still preoccupy worldwide politics today, the visitor becomes aware that publishing plays an important part in history.

Simultaneously, the exhibition tries to work out how close enlightenment, manipulation and propaganda are connected with each other and how easily "use can be turned into abuse." The Computer Age, the application of micro-processors on a huge industrial scale and their effect on manpower and labour is also tackled in the exhibition.

The exhibition also demonstrates that there were phases of stagnation as well as sudden innovative leaps in the history of the printing industry. The display is both absorbing and interesting and well worth a visit.

Jordan, Syria continue trade, economy talks

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher held more talks here Sunday with Syrian Trade Minister Mohammad Al Imadi on the work and activities of joint Jordanian-Syrian projects.

Following the meeting, Dr. Muasher said that he and his Syrian counterpart made a comprehensive review of the functions of these joint companies and ways for overcoming difficulties and problems they face. The Jordanian and Syrian sides also discussed bilateral trade and both

emphasised the need for increasing the volume of goods exchanged between the two countries, Dr. Muasher added. He said in the talks, the two sides agreed to work out plans for achieving this goal.

Dr. Muasher, who started his visit to Syria on Saturday, is accompanied by a team from his ministry. The members of the accompanying delegation are holding meetings with Syrian officials on trade and economic cooperation.

JCO, W.German foundation review cooperatives' activities

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) and the West German Friedrich Naumann Foundation opened a four-day seminar in Amman Sunday attended by specialists in cooperatives and development information from five Arab countries and Arab universities.

The participants will discuss trends in cooperative activities, the role of cooperative organisations in developing rural communities. They will focus attention on two main working papers; one dealing with training cooperative members in communication techniques for discussing development projects with populations in rural regions and the other on the cooperative movement in Jordan and the Friedrich Naumann centre in Jordan and their activities and programmes to promote the role of cooperatives.

Addressing the opening session was a representative of the West German foundation who outlined

the various programmes conducted in Jordan in coordination with the JCO and the affiliated Jordan Cooperative Institute. He said that so far the centre has produced 12 documentaries featuring the work and activities of agricultural cooperatives in Jordan.

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation, which is affiliated to the West German Free Democratic Party (FDP), helps the JCO produce films on cooperatives as part of West Germany's aid programme to Jordan.

Another speaker at the opening session was the JCO's head of the cooperative institute who welcomed the participants and emphasised the need for further coordination among Arab countries to promote the work of cooperatives.

Delegates from Jordan, Morocco, Sudan, Egypt and Tunisia as well as university professors from Arab universities are taking part in the seminar.

RSS hosts seminar on use of infra-red rays in industry

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day seminar on the use of infra-red rays in industrial processes opened at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Sunday. Twenty-five engineers taking part in the seminar will hear lectures on the use and application of these rays in chemical, mechanical and petrochemical industries. They will also learn how these rays can help to detect faults in underground pipes and insulating materials used in buildings.

The participants come from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Jordanian Armed Forces, the Civil Defence Department, the three Jordanian universities, the Jordan Cement Factories Company, the RSS, the Housing Corporation, the Jordan Electricity Authority and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company.

Ministry to assist university with antiquities museum

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khateib Saturday offered his ministry's facilities to the University of Jordan to help it establish a museum that will conduct scientific research in antiquities. The minister was speaking at a meeting with the university's dean of the Faculty of Arts, Dr. Abdul Karim Gharaibeh, during a visit to the university.

The participants come from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the Jordanian Armed Forces, the Civil Defence Department, the three Jordanian universities, the Jordan Cement Factories Company, the RSS, the Housing Corporation, the Jordan Electricity Authority and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company.



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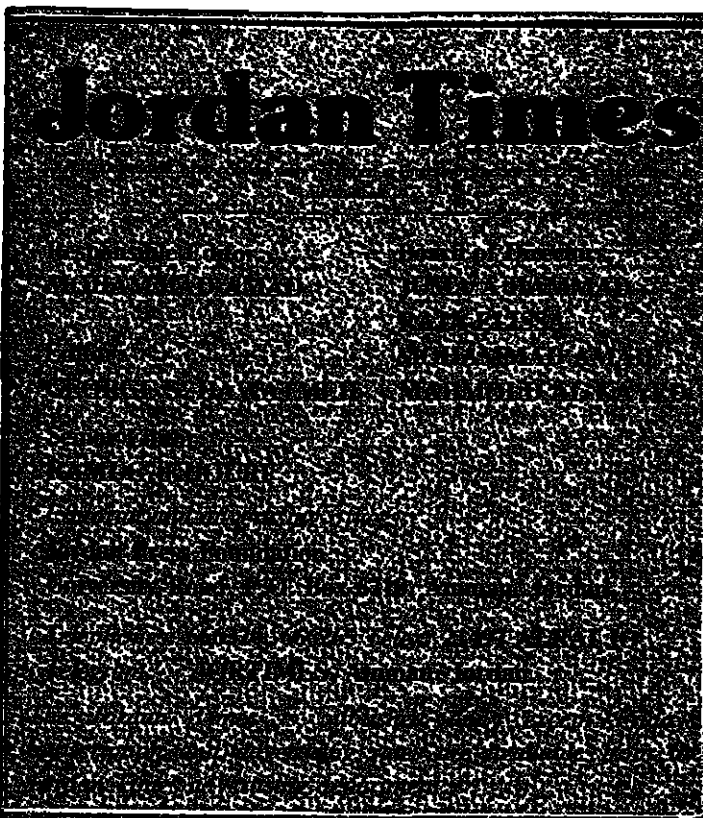
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Impetus to reconciliation

SYRIA'S announcement on Saturday of its desire to give impetus to economic and trade cooperation with Jordan came at a very opportune moment in the course of current mediation attempts to end differences between Amman and Damascus and among Arab states generally. It is certainly a welcome development since it is also a direct result of last week's meetings in Riyadh between the prime ministers of Jordan and Syria in which our two countries decided to reactivate economic and trade links and lay the ground for further bilateral cooperation. The fruitful Riyadh parley did not stop at this, and a joint communiqué was also issued enunciating a three-point agreement on political principles to solve the Palestinian problem.

Now that Syria's endeavours for ending the Lebanese civil war appear to be moving towards a successful conclusion, Damascus is obviously turning its attention to mending fences with other Arab states with which it can embark on a new era of solidarity and cooperation.

Saudi Arabia's mediation efforts and quiet diplomacy are clearly bearing fruit, and seem to be making a headway in settling differences among other Arab countries. Besides supervising the Jordanian-Syrian meeting in Riyadh, the Saudis have succeeded at the same time in arranging border meetings between Iraqi and Syrian officials to settle common border issues. It was just one little step, but with a big and obvious meaning.

Needless to say that any rapprochement among Arab countries is feared by their common enemies. Israel and Iran are no doubt monitoring these developments and viewing with much concern any inter-Arab reconciliation that would deny both of them the chance to manoeuvre and to exploit our differences for their own advantage.

The official Iranian newspaper Itilaat recently warned of what it called serious consequences of any rapprochement between Iraq and Syria, since it said, it would mean the end of the present Damascus-Tehran alliance. Of course, the Iranians have nothing to fear if they really mean to live in peace with their neighbours. But for the Israelis, it is a totally different matter. For as long as the Israeli forces continue to occupy Arab territory, Israel will have no chance of enjoying real peace, and naturally any rapprochement between Arab front-line states would constitute a direct and serious threat to its expansionist and militaristic designs.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: On the right track

KING HUSSEIN made a brief visit to Baghdad Saturday and held talks with President Saddam Hussein. The two leaders reviewed the current Arab affairs and developments in Middle East as well as the Iran-Iraq war and bilateral relations.

The talks form another link in the two leaders' joint efforts aimed at coordinating Arab positions and opening new avenues of cooperation among Arab states, and these are basic requirements for reestablishing solidarity among these states.

We are satisfied to see Arab leaders turning serious attention to the prevailing situation in their region and exerting efforts to arrive at an Arab consensus for solving common problems.

The closer the Arabs move towards one another the smaller become the chances of their enemies taking advantage of them, and the stronger and more united Arabs are, the firmer their position will be in the face of common threats and challenges.

Arab masses which realise the need for unity and common stands look forward towards more positive actions, and hope that the Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation will expand and extend to involve all Arab countries.

Al Dustour: An example of self-determination

MOROCCO'S ANNOUNCEMENT of its intention to hold a referendum to enable the people of the Western Sahara to determine their own future is a turning point in the region's crisis, and ushers in an end to the futile struggle over the territory.

This move offers a good chance for both sides in the conflict to settle their disputes peacefully, and also opens the way for more constructive cooperation between Morocco and its Arab neighbours and between Morocco and other African and Arab nations.

It was, therefore, quite natural for the Arab leaders to welcome the Moroccan step as they consider it very positive, coming particularly at this time when the Arabs are in need of unity and solidarity in the face of the dangers they all face.

The ceasefire and the referendum to be held under U.N. auspices, constitute the first step to solve the Western Sahara's issue that had plagued North Africa and its peoples for many years.

We welcome the Moroccan step because it recognises the right of the local inhabitants to determine their own future by themselves, thus upholding the basic principles of the United Nations.

Sawt Al Shaab: A blow for peace

WASHINGTON'S CONDITION for selling Jordan defensive weapons and its total biased attitude towards Israel can only be described as a form of blackmail exercised against this country. This political game played by the U.S. administration and the Congress clearly reflects America's blind and unlimited support for the Israelis although efforts are being made to justify it by claiming that this demonstrates American democracy.

There is no democracy of any sort in the United States when it comes to dealing with the interests of Israel, America's ally, and the total solidarity between the two takes priority over any other consideration.

Of course, this reflects on Washington's behaviour and its dealings with other nations, and more importantly on its credibility worldwide. Washington is openly supporting Israel's aggression on the Arab nation and disregarding Jordan's clear and unwavering desire for peace and stability, based on United Nations principles and resolutions.

The military coup d'état contagion in the developing world

By Dr. John Muttam

MILITARY coups d'état are frequent phenomena in the developing world. People, depending on their political predilections, tend to praise or condemn a military coup as a means of changing the government instantaneously. Few recent examples are: Sudan witnessed a military coup d'état on April 6, in which Jaafar Numeiri, who himself captured power through a coup in 1969, was overthrown. On July 27, Milton Obote was ousted from power by a bloodless coup in Uganda. Gen. Babangida successfully staged a coup in Nigeria on August 27, toppling Gen. Mohammad Buhari who masterminded a coup twenty months earlier to come to power.

General surveys reveal that since World War II, over 280 military coups have taken place in the developing regions of Africa, Asia and the Middle East and Latin America. It is quite interesting to note that Bolivia ranks first with 188 coups in the past 160 years and Honduras, second with 115 coups in 130 years. The most coup-prone areas are Africa and Latin America which together account for 85 per cent of the military governments since

the sixties. Being structurally an integral part of the modern state system, the military establishment has a specific functional role to play in the life of the state. Most importantly it performs a protective role, safeguarding the state from dangers of external aggression. It also functions as an effective deterrent against all internal disruptive forces, militating against national unity and integrity. In a host of emergency situations, spawned by natural disasters and calamities, territorial armies are summoned to render assistance to civil authorities. Their patriotic services to the nation, concomitant with their sacrifices may not be called into question. But why then do military men assume political roles for which they are not exactly cut?

Two conditions are pointed out as encouraging the military to stage coups in the developing world: One, a lack of effective, civilian, political leadership; and the other, political instability. The first condition creates a political power vacuum which the ambitious military men feel should be filled up by them to safeguard national interests and security.

The military junta has its own views about national interest and goals. Because of the weakness of civilian institution and the breakdown of law and order the military officers develop a sense of public service and national guardianship as a result of their military training. When they feel that the civilian leadership has fallen short of the peoples expectations and its continuance would further endanger the nation, they do not hesitate to seize power.

The second condition of political instability comes as the result of: Firstly, a combination of several internal factors, latent or open. Though specifically unidentifiable, they may broadly be categorised as economic, socio-religious, ideological, or political. Various pressure groups, interest groups and political units interact in a myriad of ways in the political spectrum. Their actions and counteractions, motivated by incompatible interests (economic, political, religious, ideological) engender unbridled disputes and internal conflicts, leading to political anarchy — an ideal situation for the ambitious military men to usurp power. Secondly, there are also many external

factors which directly or indirectly destabilise the political system of a developing country. Decolonisation has not entirely delivered the developing nations of the world from foreign dependence. The big powers have always been trying to influence and shape the emergent nations into "economic dependencies" and "satellite states." While economic dependencies are nominally independent states whose major economic activities are largely under the influence of a big power, satellite states are independent states whose political life and foreign policies are in varying degrees under the control and influence of a powerful state. Depending on their specific interests, the patronising powers could destabilise the political system of their protegee by offering aid to a revolutionary movement, supporting one side or another in an internal dispute, instigating violence and sedition, and encouraging military coups. Many military coups in the past have been associated with foreign aid and intervention.

In a situation of political anarchy, the only solution may be to temporarily hand over

the power to the military. But a military coup cannot stamp out political instability nor can it in the long run create effective political leadership, while the *bona fide* regarding their altruistic spirit may not be called into question. It is still a mooted point whether they can themselves render effective political leadership. It is one thing to seize power, but another to exercise power. Once the military junta tastes political power, it is very difficult to dislodge it even if normal political situations return to the country. Some of the military regimes have created more terrifying political conditions in Third World countries than there could have been otherwise.

It appears that the Third World will yet face more military coups, though one would loath to think about it, the real catalyst being political instability generally perceived everywhere. And political stability can come only as a result of a long-drawn socio-economic-political process — may be extending to a few decades or a few centuries.

Political institutions and organisations should be able to

absorb into the nation the multiplicity of interests, seeking recognition and expression. Otherwise the vicious cycle of political anarchy would ensue. Sudan's is a typical example. A rivalry between the north and the south embroiled that country into a civil war for 17 years after it obtained independence from the joint British-Egyptian rule. Capturing power through a military coup in 1969, Jaafar Numeiri put an end to the civil war in 1972. But his 17-year rule did not bring about political stability to that country because: He antagonised the southerners who launched a guerrilla warfare against him; he introduced laws favouring one section of the society; he drained all the economic resources making the country to go begging when a drought hit the nation. Demonstrations, strikes and political anarchy followed, urging his colleagues to wrest power from him. The Sudanese people may not have reached the end of the tunnel. But the process is all the same elsewhere in the developing world, where military men have grabbed the power — The writer is on the staff of the Jordan Times.

'How did it play in Peoria?'

By Rodney Pinder
Reuter

NEW YORK — There is a traditional measure of success for a performance in American politics contained in the question: "How did it play in Peoria?"

By that standard, President Reagan's speech on U.S.-Soviet relations on the 40th anniversary of the United Nations last Thursday was not entirely successful.

In Peoria, an industrial city in Illinois used by political sophisticates to represent grassroots America, press reviews were critical.

Referring to Reagan's proposal at the U.N. General Assembly that the United States and Soviet Union cooperate in ending world regional conflicts, the 150-year-old independent Peoria Journal-Star said in an editorial: "President Reagan's proposal... is certainly a new and different idea. Unfortunately, it strikes us as completely unrealistic."

It objected to Reagan's proposal that the United States help the recovery of war-torn nations once the superpowers had arranged peace. "...we the taxpayers would then start shelling out money to help rebuild Afghanistan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Angola and Nicaragua when we haven't got enough money to pay even our own bills," it said.

Peoria, a city of 125,000 people, is known as "test market U.S.A." whenever a new consumer item is being introduced to the home market it is first tried out in Peoria.

Reagan, 74, perhaps more than most U.S. presidents, pays close heed to the moods and opinions of provincial voters.

His success as one of the most popular of American leaders has been built largely on his image as a man of the people among Washington intellectuals. Some independent Washington analysts told Reuters they regarded his U.N. speech, billed as one of his most important foreign policy statements, as aimed at his domestic audience as he prepares for his meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev next month.

"It was vintage Reagan... highly nationalistic," said John Steinhilber, director of Foreign Policy Studies at the prestigious Brookings Institution.

Asked about murmurs of concern from America's European allies over the president's neglect of nuclear war issues in the address, he said: "He was not talking to the Europeans."

"He was talking to a domestic American audience. That's bizarre in that international forum, but that's what he did."

The New York Times, regarded by many as the most influential newspaper in the United States, described Reagan's speech as a combative sermon (which) did little to enhance his credibility."

The Washington Post, studied daily by the capital's powerful, dismissed Reagan's offering as "an intriguing but somewhat vague set of maybes..."

The Wall Street Journal, bible of the eastern establishment's money-makers, hailed the address as a "declaratory masterpiece" which should make Gorbachev worry.

But many would argue Peoria is a truer test of American opinion. The area is Reagan's spiritual

home, political analysts say. Biographers said some of the happiest days of his life were spent from 1928 to 1932 at Eureka College, 21 miles east, where he starred in the football team.

One of Reagan's first acts after being elected President in 1980 was to visit the college in an emotional homecoming with his wife Nancy and staff said he still kept in close touch.

Reagan would be content that his U.N. performance played well in Eureka.

Allen Fore, editor of the student newspaper, *Begarus*, told Reuters: "Students are pleased that he is extending a hand to the Soviets, they're glad he's maintaining a tough stance towards the Soviets, they're pleased that Reagan is standing behind his 'Star Wars' strategic defence initiative and will not use it as a bargaining chip with the Soviets."

Libya and Morocco — marriage of necessity

By George Henderson

THE EXTRAORDINARY political marriage between Morocco and Libya has, despite all the gloomy prognostications, survived its first year. The treaty, which was based on a plan put to Colonel Qadhafi by King Hassan during a meeting in August 1983, formally came into being on Sept. 1, 1984. It caused an immediate outcry of protest in other North African capitals, particularly in Algiers, where the treaty was seen as a deliberate riposte to Algerian attempts to create Maghrebi unity through its March 1983 treaty with Tunisia, to which Mauritania adhered in December 1983.

Morocco and Libya had both been unable to adhere to the Algerian treaty, because neither of them could fulfil the conditions laid down by Algeria — a resolution of outstanding disputes in the region, particularly with respect to the Western Sahara, and the delimitation of regional borders. Libya was excluded because of a long-standing dispute over its common border with Algeria, and even though Tunisia suggested ways to permit Libyan adherence, Algeria remained opposed — not least because Libya had reduced its support for the Polisario Front, the Sahrawi national liberation movement, in its struggle with Morocco for control of the Western Sahara. This support had noticeably declined since mid-1983 largely because of Qadhafi's rapprochement with Morocco and his decision to rebuild his bridges with moderate states in the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia.

Indeed, his rapprochement with Morocco had originally been largely conditioned by Algeria's continued spurning of Libyan overtures for closer relations. Although outstanding border disputes between Morocco and Algeria had been theoretically resolved in a 1972 treaty (which still awaits ratification), the Western Sahara conflict made any close link between the two quite unthinkable. The surprise meeting between King Hassan and the Algerian president, Chadli Ben Jedd, in February 1983 marked an end to the frigid atmosphere

that had characterised the Boumediene era, but did not really signify a change of heart by either state.

In this context, the sudden decision of Morocco and Libya to form their own union seems much less surprising, despite the profound differences in their political structures and international aspirations. Libya was, after all, the world's first *jamahiriyyah* (state of the masses) — the embodiment of direct popular democracy even if Colonel Qadhafi maintained a firm, even repressive control. Morocco, on the other hand, was a traditional Islamic sultanate in which the ruler had the added quality of caliph or religious leader of his people. The system was modified by an element of guided democracy in which a large number of political parties enthusiastically disputed the restricted political terrain proffered to them by the royal palace. The treaty arrangements mirrored these profound differences by enabling each state to maintain its own political system, while binding each to support the other against external threats. The provision for other states to join the "Arab-African Union," as the treaty was called, emphasised the continued individuality of member states — unlike the Algerian alternative, which required compromise.

The most immediate benefit of the treaty for both countries was that each could consider that it had successfully broken out from the isolation imposed upon it by regional events — Libya from the constrictions of Algeria's border demands and Tunisian anxiety over mutual relations, and Morocco from the growing diplomatic crisis over the Western Sahara. Indeed, the initial benefits for Morocco were by far the most compelling, since the Moroccan government's continued refusal to honour a June 1981 pledge to hold a referendum over the Western Sahara issue was clearly going to lead to a major crisis inside the Organisation for African Unity (OAU). In the light of this refusal, it became clear that the OAU would have to seat a delegation from the Saharan Arab Dem-

ocratic Republic (SADR), the political wing of the Polisario Front, at its next meeting in November 1984. Algeria, in the wake of the Libyan-Moroccan treaty, had decided that it no longer believed in Moroccan protestations of willingness to comply with international resolutions — in both the OAU and the UN — over self-determination for the Sahrawi, and stepped up its military support for the Front.

The Libyan-Moroccan treaty, then, offered Morocco an effective means of breaking the growing diplomatic opposition to its occupation of the Western Sahara — ironically enough at a time when its military status was being steadily improved by the strategy of defensive walls which since 1980 had steadily pushed Moroccan control from the Layoune-Smara-Bou Craa triangle towards the Algerian border and southwards towards the Atlantic coastal town of Dakhla, which in August 1985 was finally brought into the Moroccan defensive system. Libya, for its part, while it did not originally approve of Morocco's occupation and offered the Polisario Front increasing military and humanitarian support, decried the "Balkanisation," as Colonel Qadhafi saw it, implied by the creation of yet another state in North Africa. As a result, the slow abandonment of the SADR and the Front was not too difficult a step for Colonel Qadhafi to take.

The consequences of this move were first seen in Libya's abstention over issues involving the Western Sahara issue at the OAU and the UN in November 1984 and in its refusal to host a joint meeting of the Arab League and the OAU in Tripoli in April 1985. In addition, King Hassan has been able to rest content that the Front is now totally dependent on Algeria for military supplies and that the 120,000-150,000 Saharan refugees in camps around Tindouf depend on continued Algerian support for their survival (see page 20). Strangely enough, despite the collapse of Libyan material and diplomatic support for the Saharan cause, Libya has not withdrawn its recognition of the

SADR and still figures among the 63 states worldwide that have recognised it.

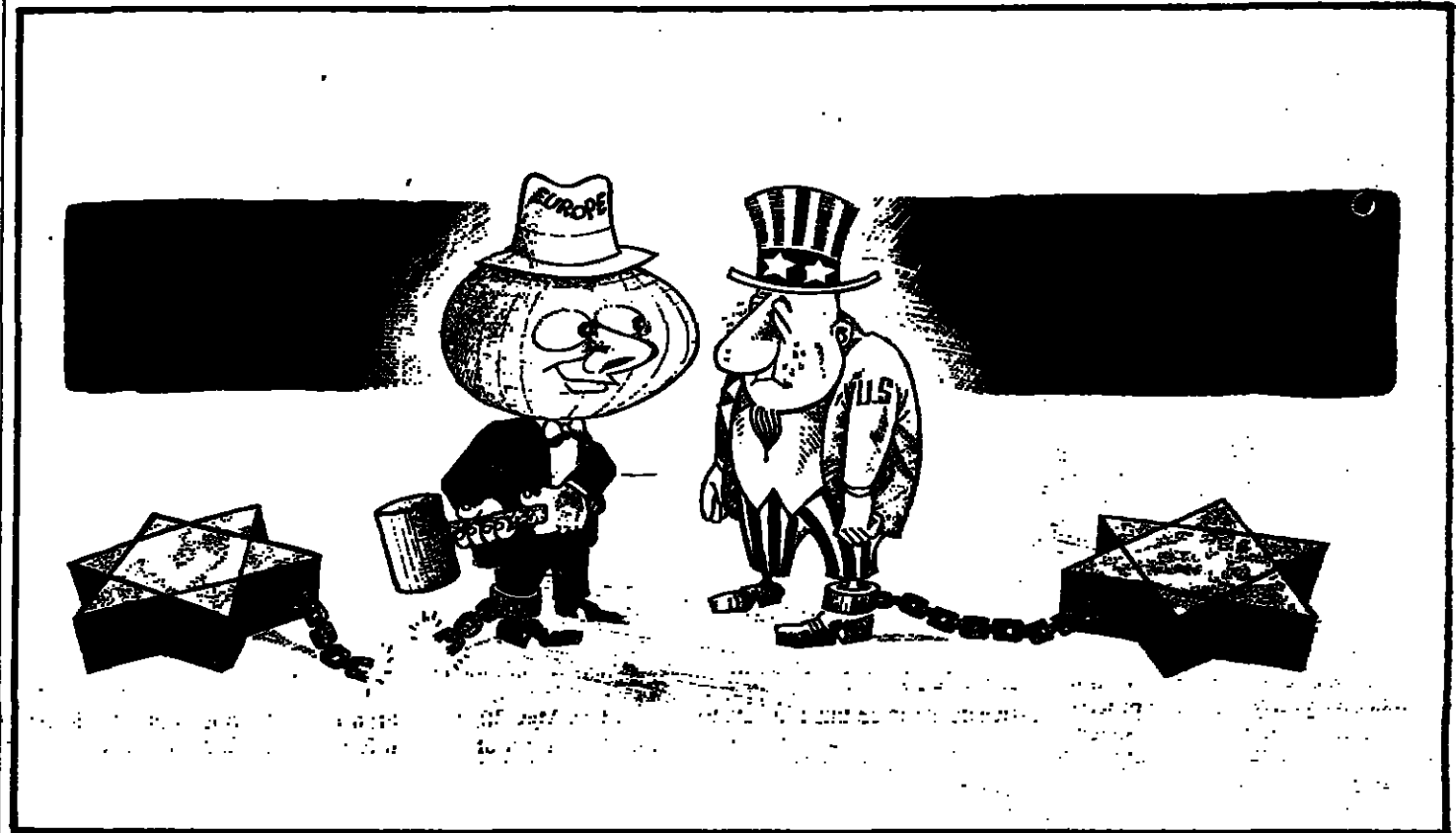
Apart from the Western Sahara issue — clearly the most important aspect as far as Morocco is concerned — and the wider issue for Libya of generalised support for an avowedly moderate, pro-American state such as Morocco, in the face of continuing and virulent hostility from the Reagan administration and the US Congress, the treaty has had other, albeit minor, benefits. Morocco has been able to anticipate economic benefits — opportunities for Moroccan workers seeking an alternative to chronic unemployment; access to Libyan oil supplies, a vital consideration for a country that spends the equivalent of half its export earnings on oil imports; and the opportunity for Moroccan business to penetrate a potentially useful market.

Not surprisingly the reality has not lived up to the ideal. Libya faces a major economic crisis with its oil revenues cut by more than half from the 1980 level of \$22 billion to a likely level of only \$7.5 billion this year — and its foreign reserves falling by more than sixfold from their 1983 level of \$6 billion. It has been forced to expel foreign workers in large numbers, which makes it unlikely that more Moroccan workers can find employment there, although up to 35,000 Moroccan workers already in Libya have not been affected by the recent expulsions. At the same time, Morocco has also been offered \$100m by Libya to help with wheat purchases — about half the total cost of Moroccan wheat imports this year. Several joint companies have also been formed and Libya is to help in Morocco's current drive to discover oil. Moroccan companies have been bitterly disappointed, however, by the complexities of operating in the Libyan market and by the consequences of the fall in oil revenues.

On the economic front, therefore, the results have been mixed and far from dramatic. Politically, however, relations have, on occasion, been explosive. King

Hassan was reportedly furious that Libya should have decided in June to strengthen its relations with Iran, given Morocco's moderate alignment with Jordan, Egypt and Iraq in the Middle East. Libya found King Hassan's recent conference in August over the Palestinian issue and the current Jordanian-inspired peace moves for peace with Israel unpalatable in the extreme and sent only a low level delegation to the preliminary meetings for the Casablanca summit and stayed away from the meeting proper. There have been other, more concealed, conflicts over Middle Eastern affairs, but Libya has, at least, been instrumental in healing a longstanding rift between Morocco and Syria earlier this year, while Morocco has continued to act as honest broker in discussions between the authorities in N'jamena and Libya over the future of Chad.

Moroccan displeasure with Libya is underlined by the fact that King Hassan has still not made his long promised visit to Tripoli and sent a low-level delegation to the 16th anniversary celebrations of Libya's revolution. Nonetheless, despite these surface disagreements, Morocco and Libya need each other. Libya is about to face another onslaught from the Reagan administration, while Morocco still has to cope with the continuing Algerian diplomatic campaign in support of the SADR. Currently, moves are under way to have Morocco condemned by Third World opinion at the non-aligned summit meeting in Luanda and here continued Libyan support will be vital. Nonetheless, the issue does underline the critical role played by the Arab African Union for both countries — for Libya as a bulwark against the USA and for Morocco as a guarantee against diplomatic isolation in the Third World over the Sahara. In short, the imperatives are exactly as they were one year ago, with the one exception that the divisions in North Africa — ironically caused by moves towards regional unity — are now more profound than ever — Middle East International, London.



The battle over privatising communications: Competition, not monopoly, is the secret

By Bruce Russell
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The pressures that led to the break-up of America's giant Bell Telephone System are now being felt in other industrial countries, opening some communications monopolies to competition, industry officials say.

Already, Britain and Japan have turned their state monopolies into commercial corporations, although the degree of competition created is minor compared to the fierce battle to grab long-distance telephone business now going on in America.

Other governments, as in Spain and Italy, maintain control of the overall system but are considering opening some aspects of the telecommunications market to private enterprise.

The United States has also taken initial steps to extend communications competition into space by licensing three companies to compete for the international satellite business now controlled by the 109-nation consortium Intelsat.

"A telephone company was a natural monopoly as long as the only way you could transmit telephone conversations was with wooden poles and copper wire," said U.S. district court judge Harold Greene who presided over Bell System breakup case.

"But when, in World War II, it became apparent that telephone conversations could also be transmitted through microwave towers and satellites, it became feasible for more than one company to compete," Greene said in an

interview.

The court-ordered breakup of the Bell System in January 1982 created seven regional companies to handle regional and local phone traffic in place of American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT), known to generations of Americans by the half-affectionate, half-mocking nickname "Ma Bell."

ATT kept the right to handle long-distance traffic and to expand into new technologies. But it lost its monopoly and now competes against a host of new communications firms, leaving U.S. consumers to choose their long-distance company.

Greene said technological change made the breakup inevitable and governments elsewhere are bound to feel the same pressures.

"Once this competition started to emerge the government had two choices — squash it or carry out the intention of our anti-trust laws and let others compete with ATT," he said.

According to an informal Reuters survey, most industrial nations except for Britain and Japan have so far preserved their state telephone monopolies but are permitting private enterprise to take over operation of peripheral technologies such as car phones and specialised office switchboards.

Britain has licensed a second private system, Mercury Communications, to compete with the giant British Telecom. The new entry now has only one per cent of the leased circuit market, although this is expected to grow to five per cent.

In Japan, the former state monopoly Nippon Telegraph and Telephone became a private corporation last April and the government approved five common carriers to compete with it.

Luis Solana, chairman of Spain's state-controlled CTNE telephone company said: "I think it is a good idea to maintain the monopoly (on Spain's communications network), but I'm in favour of gradually lifting monopoly control on terminals."

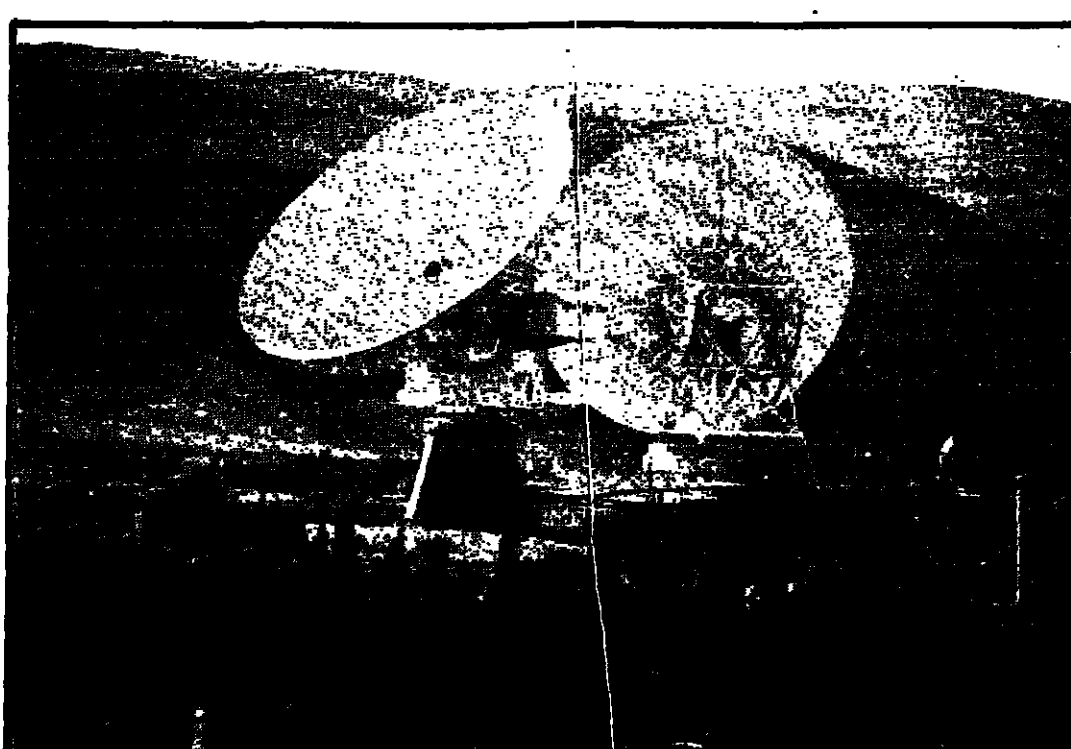
Officials at SIP, the Italian state telephone company, say no steps are contemplated to break up Italy's network but there has already been extensive deregulation of switchboard systems and photo transmission of texts, known as telefaxing. In Paris, French officials see no move to end the state monopoly.

In the U.S., Bell's breakup has brought calls for similar competition in the international satellite transmission field, where all traffic at present goes through the 16-satellite global system of Intelsat.

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission licensed three companies in July to set up international satellite system of their own in competition with Intelsat.

U.S. communications officials say the decision has stirred excitement in other countries because Intelsat's ability to offer equitable communications access, even in the Third World, has made it a popular institution.

Solana of Spain said: "I'm a great fan of Intelsat. I think it



Jordan satellite stations at Baqa owned by the Telecommunications Corporation which is considering privatisation

would be dangerous to touch off a war between countries to increase the number of satellite launches."

So far, the three U.S. companies have been unable to name a start-up date for trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific services because no foreign partners have offered to work with them.

But Intelsat Director General Richard Colino, an American, says European nations are wary that one of their number will break away and form a par-

tnership with the U.S. companies. "They are watching each other very carefully because there is a concern that one country might break ranks," he said.

Colino disagrees with the way the U.S. went about trying to inject competition into international satellite communications, saying, "it has given the impression of unilateral action and these are days when unilateral action is not much appreciated."

Competition as a result of the

Bell breakup has already driven down international telephone rates significantly. A three-minute call from the U.S. to Britain, which cost about eight dollars in 1980, can now be made for less than half that.

But the demise of the highly-efficient Bell System has not been universally popular with consumers, while long-distance rates have fallen, the cost of local calls, once subsidised by long-distance revenues, has risen.

Randa Habib's
Corner

Celebrating the past... and future promise

YOU SEE, they didn't let me down. I told you they are great with printing errors at the Jordan Times, especially when it comes to numbers. In the 10th anniversary special issue, on the page describing "the people behind the Jordan Times," two errors were made in my biographical note. There was a year added both to my date of birth and to the first appearance of my corner. My corner started on the 9th of April 1982, not in 1981; you would think they would know that. As for my age, subtract a year to the one given... you know how important this is to us ladies.

As for those of you who called me, or left a message in my office, yes, I am married. No, it was not meant to be hidden, we just didn't mention it. My husband is a Jordanian and I have a boy of eight years and a daughter of five years.

But the Jordan Times is forgiven. After all you can't imagine the circumstances under which that issue appeared. It was already day-light when most of the reporters and the editor, as the captain of the ship, were able to go home on Saturday morning.

So, what are a few mistakes, compared with the magnitude of their task. And I think they did a great job. I particularly loved the funny columns on the editors' room antics and the "Bloopers, Bloopers and Good Faith." I told you they play fair.

The letter from the editor gave the line of the Jordan Times: This paper does not believe that exposing Jordanian problems to foreigners harms the country. On the contrary, it carries the country's message and shares in its troubles and joys.

So we will continue, in this corner in particular, to point out what we think people should be made aware of.

Domesday book marks 900 years as English record

By Michael Wise
Reuters

LONDON — The Domesday Book, a survey of England commissioned by William the Conqueror, is celebrating its 900th anniversary. Its sheepskin pages have been restored, and a 20th-century update on video disc is on the way.

Britain's first Norman king ordered the work in the year 1085 to have a detailed account of his estates and tenants.

Of incalculable historical importance, the book's separate volumes — Great Domesday and Little Domesday — are still in use today, having been cited as admissible evidence in several 20th-century cases on landholding rights and boundaries.

Specialists recently spent nine months cleaning and repairing the 800 pages, written in abbreviated Latin and now ready for what will be at least their seventh rebinding.

The first uniform English translation of the Domesday — the name derives from the book's status as a record from which there was no appeal — is to be completed this year, having taken 15 years longer than the 12 months needed for the original.

One update comparing 37 English counties in 1985 with the way they were nine centuries ago was published this week.

"The Domesday Book — England's heritage then and now" finds that many listed settlements "grow into towns, some dwindle to farms, some actually fall into the sea, and some remain remarkably unchanged through the centuries."

Visitors, many of them genealogists, to the central London Public Record Office where the volumes are kept find the brown ink faded and the parchment a bit mottled, but the neat lined accounts of property and assessed value are still legible.

"Because parchment benefits from the oil from human hands, the folios have remained soft and supple," says Dr. Elizabeth Hal-

lam, assistant keeper of medieval records at the office.

The rippling pages sparsely highlighted in red make up a detailed survey of real estate tenure and population. Some historians regard the book as the most remarkable administrative accomplishment of the Middle Ages.

An Anglo-Saxon chronicler wrote of William's combing of the country: "So very narrowly did he have it investigated that there was no single hide nor a yard of land, nor indeed... one ox nor one pig which was there left out, and not put down in his record."

Among straightforward listings are interesting insights into medieval life. A scribe in north England related: "If a widow in Chester had intercourse with anyone unlawfully, she was fined 20 shillings, but a girl 10 shillings for such an offence."

In Worcestershire: "Whoever shed blood between Monday morning and Saturday noon was fined 10 shillings, but from Saturday noon to Monday morning, the fine was 20 shillings."

A team sponsored partly by the British Broadcasting Corporation is working on a new wide-ranging survey of Britain entitled the Domesday Project.

Michael Tibbets, assistant project editor, said some 25,000 Ordnance Survey maps, 120,000 pictures and the equivalent of two million pages would be available on video disc by November 1986.

Schools have adopted specific areas and are sending in reports of everyday experiences. One account describes life in a deprived Scottish fishing village at a time when the catch was scarce and the industry becoming increasingly mechanised.

Tibbets said the material submitted by individuals, to be made available with the other data mainly through libraries and educational institutions, would not be edited except for libel.

"Spelling, mistakes and phrasing will be of use to linguists," he said. "This is the encapsulation of an age that will be read in the future."

Sahel: After the famine, the food flood

Bureaucratic delays mean that food aid is arriving in Africa more than a year after it was pledged — and when grain silos are full with a good harvest. Dominique Side is editor of the Earthscan Bulletin.

PARIS — It has rained this year in much of the Sahel, and after a long drought the grain harvest promises to be adequate in some places. But food aid pledged last year is only now arriving, and it threatens to cause havoc.

Normally only about 10 per cent of the world's "food aid" goes to disaster relief. Most food aid is given by one government to another on a yearly basis. The process of granting food aid is now so lengthy and complex, it means the hungry rarely get food when they need it.

Each year, a nation's food deficit is evaluated by experts from organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation and the World Food Programme, and a request is accordingly made by the country for aid. Once a donor has decided to send a specified quantity and type of food, it then has to be transported and distributed in the villages.

Burkina Faso is now receiving 142,800 tonnes of grain from the European Community (EC), the United States, Canada and other donors just as it is bringing in a bumper harvest of its own. Niger is due to get 340,000 tonnes and Senegal 118,000 tonnes — figures all based on last year's low yields. This represents almost a doubling of total food aid to the Sahel since 1982: from 700,000 tonnes in 1983-84 to 1.3 million tonnes in 1984-85.

Part of the food aid pledged after last year's disastrous harvest in October began reaching Sahelian countries in May at the end of the dry season. But since the rains began in June food distribution has been impossible in rural areas, just when village food stocks are at their yearly lowest. As the food aid continues to arrive, it is stored in silos and granaries until the rains subside.

Burkina Faso's silos are currently stocked full of food aid awaiting distribution. According to Charles Condamin, of the French private volunteer agency Freres des Hommes, only 122,000 tonnes of grain have arrived, of which 95,000 are stockpiled awaiting distribution. There is simply no more room, either for the remaining 20,800 tonnes due, nor for

Burkina Faso's own harvest.

As of September 1, 1985, only about half of the food aid pledged last year for Senegal had arrived, only 47 per cent in Cape Verde, and some 75 per cent in Niger. The remainder will continue to arrive over the next few months.

In a report published in January 1985, the EC's court of auditors accused the Commission of excessive delays in getting food aid to the hungry. The auditors found that the average period between a request for food and its delivery was 419 days for cereals, 526 days for powdered milk, and 578 days for butter oil.

The trend would appear to be getting worse. By 31st December 1983, only 42 per cent of all requests for food aid had been fully met, compared to 67 per cent by that date in 1982. Four countries — Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Zambia and Somalia — had received none of the aid requested, according to the court report.

U.S. and Canadian aid to the Sahel, which is channelled through

the EC suffers similar logistic problems. In her report "The 1983-84 African Food Crisis: USAID: Food Aid and Voluntary Assistance," published in June, Mrs. Julia Chang Bloch, an AID official working with the "Food for Peace" programme, proposed no less than eight ways of overcoming delays to U.S. food aid.

These include improved forecasting of food crises, better donor coordination, streamlining bureaucracy, and food processing prior to shipment.

And on May 30, 1984, France passed a reform of bilateral food aid which included the setting up of an inter-ministerial unit within the Ministry of Cooperation responsible for emergency food aid and information. This has considerably reduced delays in delivery this year by simplifying paperwork.

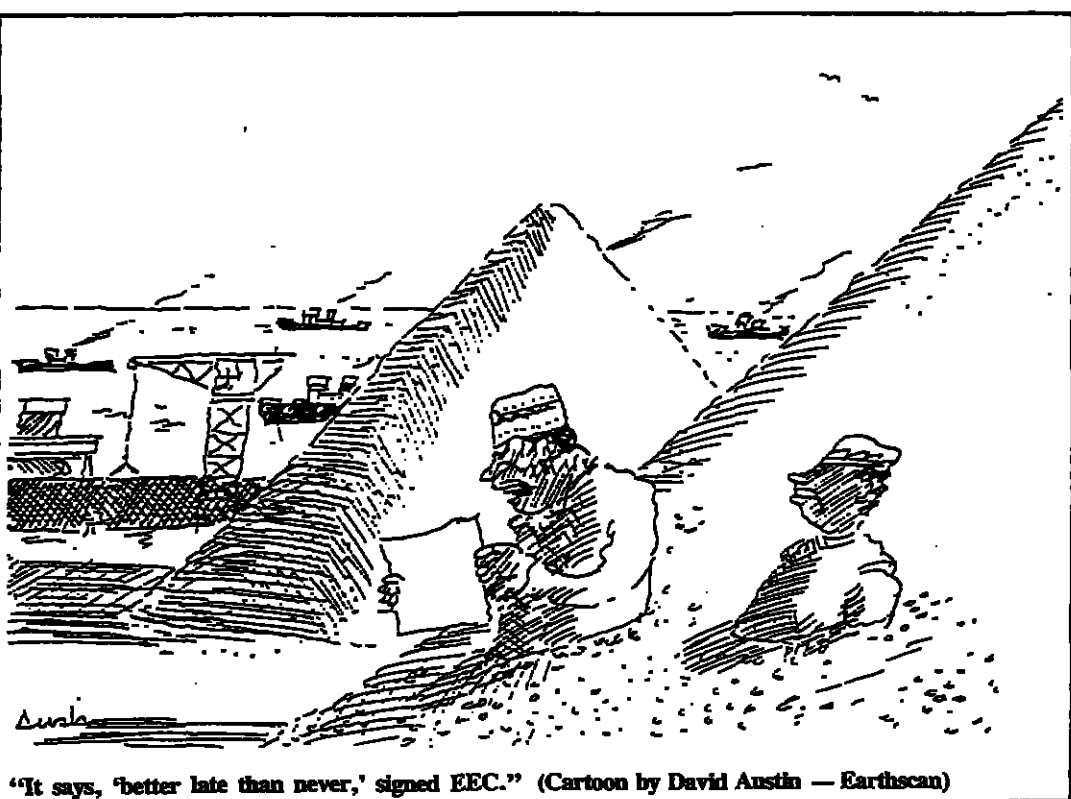
At a high level meeting recently held in Dakar, Senegal, government officials from Sahelian states and non-governmental development organisations looked at ways of bypassing the problems caused by food aid altogether. Senegal has recently adopted a national food policy so that badly

managed food aid does not hold the country to ransom.

The "greening of Africa" campaign being launched in Dakar is part of this policy. The campaign advocates what are called "triangular operations," in which donors buy up and transport food from surplus to deficit areas within a country or region via non-governmental organisations liaising directly with peasants. This stimulates local production, respects local diet, costs far less money, and is quicker and more effective.

An operation of this kind between Kaolack and Matam in Senegal begun in January 1985, took only two months between the buying of grain and its delivery. Projects such as these are more likely to help ease hunger and contribute to rural development at the same time than any amount of food aid.

In the words of Bokar Conte, Senegalese coordinator of triangular operations, "only an intelligent and courageous policy" can improve the food deficit of the Sahel. "If used well, food aid could become an effective stimulant for food production." Otherwise it can bring a disaster of its own — Earthscan feature.



"It says, 'better late than never,' signed EEC." (Cartoon by David Austin — Earthscan)

Despite government campaign, dog soup restaurants still flourish in South Korea

By Granville Watts
Reuters

SEOUL — When you take away a doggie bag from some restaurants in Seoul it means just that — there's dog in the bag.

The South Korean government ruled last year that dog soup (poshintang) restaurants should be shut down to present a better image for foreigners as the 1988 Seoul Olympics approach, but the establishments still flourish.

After closing for a few months, the restaurants have reopened to meet a continued public demand. Now they usually have no signs outside and have moved off main streets to back alleys, out of the way of most foreign tourists.

A visit to one such restaurant at

lunch time found the place packed with businessmen and office workers, mostly men.

The menu was the same for all: A large boiling pot of dog ribs served with sesame leaves and seeds, followed by plain boiled rice washed down with soju, a potent colourless liquor made from potatoes.

A waitress added a speciality to the pot bubbling in the table's centre over a gas flame: Four slices of dog's penis.

Many Koreans regard the dish as an aphrodisiac and a tonic for flagging strength in the summer months.

They argue that Koreans have eaten dog for hundreds of years and should be allowed to continue

doing so. When the government ban was first announced last year, newspapers opposed it and some Koreans accused the authorities of bending to pressure from animal-lovers overseas.

They also pointed out that most Koreans did not eat dog and that the practice was not widespread.

The owner of one dog soup restaurant admitted she did not like to eat her own fare and only did so when asked by customers. She declined to comment on reports that some dogs are beaten before they are killed to make the meat tender.

"It tastes just like beef," is the comment of intrepid foreigners who overcome their qualms and

try the dish. A western ambassador is reported to have visited a dog soup restaurant a few years ago and enjoyed the meal, although he asked his host to keep his identity secret.

"Dog has been eaten in China, the Philippines, Indonesia and other Asian countries for centuries," says one Seoul resident. "I don't know what all the fuss is about." He swears by the recuperative qualities of what he considers a delicacy.

The government has also banned the serving of snake, earthworm and other traditional exotic Korean dishes in the run-up to the Olympics. But it's dog soup that remains most controversial.

Popsingers enter new era of political activism

By Jon Kalish
Reuters

NEW YORK — A song attacking South Africa's apartheid system is dominating American airwaves only days after being released and its stars and producers think it will lead rock and roll into a new era of activism.

"Sun City," a work in which more than 50 rock, rap, reggae, pop and jazz stars attack the racial segregation system, was released last week and is being played on virtually every radio station, except those devoted solely to classical music.

To some critics it makes the mega-seller "We Are the World," which raised millions of dollars for African famine victims, sound like a nursery rhyme.

Bruce Springsteen, one of its stars, says the reason is because "I don't think you can just sit back and watch what was going on down there without feeling that you had to say something about it."

Springsteen, in a brief interview with Reuters during the filming of a music video of the song, added: "It's a great rock record, that is why it is going to be powerful."

And the man they call "the boss" of American rock and roll has one of the more powerful lines in the song.

Referring to the Reagan administration's policy of constructive engagement with South Africa, Springsteen wails: "We're stabbing our brothers and sisters in the back."

The song is named after the Sun City entertainment and gambling

resort in Bophuthatswana, a black "homeland" in South Africa.

"We sang to feed 'em. Now it's time to sing for freedom," said Steven van Zandt, Springsteen's former lead guitarist who was one of the prime movers behind "Sun City." He wrote it after two trips to South Africa in 1984.

Under his direction the project grew from a single to an album with jazz, rap, blues and spoken word cuts. The thin, colourful rockers always wears a bandana on his head and often is seen with mirrored sunglasses.

The impressive roster of artists who lent their talents to the record, including Bob Dylan, Miles Davis, Jimmy Cliff, Ringo Starr and Reuben Blades, will result in an inevitable comparison with "We are the World."

But unlike that recording "Sun City's" message is angry. It mocks the Reagan administration's effort at "quiet diplomacy" and urges artists and athletes to boycott the Sun City entertainment complex.

Arthur Baker, the co-producer of the album with Van Zandt, said a number of recording artists refused to participate in making the record because they feared it would be "a second-rate copy of 'We are the World'."

While "We are the World" was recorded in one session, "Sun City" was recorded at 15 different studios in the United States and Britain.

Springsteen said: "By bringing attention to what's going on in South Africa, it will also make us look at our own backyards and the terrible problems we have with racism here in this country."

U.N. tries to help migratory animals

By Ronald van de Krol
Reuters

BONN — As winter approaches Europe, the rare Siberian crane sets out on its annual journey from the frigid tundra of the Soviet Union to the warmth of India.

Beginning near the same point, the Arctic tern embarks on migration to the other side of the world to spend the winter months in Tierra del Fuego near Antarctica.

The chances that they will reach their winter home and return to Europe to breed next spring are getting smaller every year.

The threat stems not from the strain of migrating, which is as old as the species themselves, but from the destruction of their traditional resting places along the way by human encroachment, pollution and hunting.

These hazards are depleting the ranks of all migratory creatures ranging from bats and birds to gillies.

This week, as the birds headed south, the United Nations held a conference of experts and diplomats from 58 countries here seeking ways of putting a unique animal protection convention to work to make migrations less hazardous.

"We urgently need to create stepping stones of conservation for migratory animals," Joe Wheeler, deputy Executive Director of

the U.N.'s Environment Programme (UNEP), told Reuters.

The goal of the Bonn Convention, an international treaty which came into force in 1983 and was being reviewed here, is to coordinate conservation efforts for animals crossing man-made political frontiers.

"By definition, saving migratory animals has to be an international effort," a Dutch diplomat attending the week-long UNEP conference said.

"The hard work done by one country to save animals is practically wasted if hunters on the other side of the border can shoot them at will," he said.

Conference organisers said the problem they were up against was vividly illustrated by a stuffed stork on display in a West German museum.

The stork, which enjoys rigorous protection in Europe in a bid to halt its decline, was shot by hunters in West Africa and managed to fly all the way back to its northern breeding grounds with an arrow through its chest.

But it died before being able to mate.

"Virtually every country in Europe and Africa has white storks which migrate between the two regions. The potential for cooperation is obvious," Ian Hepburn of Britain's Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said.

The Bonn Convention grew out

of European efforts in the 1970s to ensure that endangered bird species would return to the north to produce offspring after their winter migration.

It requires countries to adopt measures to protect certain endangered animals — mainly birds but also whales, fish, seals, turtles, gazelles and gorillas — and promote the conservation of others.

The convention, unique because it concentrates on migratory animals, also calls on "range states" — countries which play host to animals on their journeys — to conclude separate regional pacts to provide extra animal protection.

Nineteen countries, mostly in Europe and Africa, are full parties to the convention while 13 others have signed but not yet ratified it.

"Most participating states are clustered in Europe and Africa, which means that just one of the many global migratory routes is covered. We now need to work hard to bring others in, especially in South-east Asia and Latin America," conference organiser Ralph Osterwold of UNEP said.

Uruguay and Zaire are likely to join next, he said.

But other important ranges states like the U.S. and the Soviet Union have yet to become parties to the convention.

"Any major bird migration from Europe involves the Soviet Union in some way. It would be a

great step forward for conservation if Moscow would join," one diplomat said.

The U.S. currently works with Canada and Mexico to give sanctuary to migrating birds, and the Soviet Union and India have drawn up a joint list of 303 birds in need of protection as they fly between the two countries.

But UNEP argues that treaties between two or three countries is not enough.

It says one of the biggest threats to the Siberian crane, for example, is hunting in Pakistan which lies between India and the Soviet Union and is not a party to the protection pact.

"The Bonn Convention is coming out of its infancy and seems to have survived all childhood illnesses. We now need to secure funding so that our work can continue," Osterwold said.

The treaty is expected to produce its first regional pact for safeguarding migratory animals in the next few months.

West Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands are close to agreeing on a joint plan to save seals in the Wadden Sea, off the Dutch coast.

"We don't expect miracles overnight. The migratory problem has been creeping up on us for generations and will certainly be with us for a few more. But we think we're going to make an important contribution," Wheeler said.

Juventus wins record 8th consecutive match

ROME (R) — European champions Juventus set an Italian soccer league record Sunday when they beat Udinese 2-1 to claim their eighth straight win from the start of the season.

Goals by Italians Aldo Serena in the 21st minute and Luciano Favero four minutes into the second half enabled the Turin side to pass their own record of seven successive opening wins set in 1976 and equalled last Sunday.

If Juventus beat Napoli next Sunday they will set an absolute record for successive victories. Two other teams, Ambrosiana-Internazionale — now Internazionale — in 1939-40 and Lazio in 1972-73, won eight games in a row in mid-season.

Ironically, the greatest threat to Juventus' record hopes Sunday came from their own international defender Antonio Cuccinelli, who put through his own goal nine minutes from time.

Serena's goal — his sixth in the league this season — kept him in second place in the goal-scoring table behind Internazionale's

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

The West German striker scored his seventh goal in eight games Sunday as Internazionale beat Roma 2-1 to go second in the standings four points behind leaders Juventus.

Rummenigge struck in the 67th minute after Italian international Sandro Altobelli had put Internazionale one up midway through the first half. Former Juventus midfielder Zbigniew Boniek of Poland replied for Roma in the 79th minute.

The Romans lost Brazilian Toninho Cerezo with a recurring leg injury early in the game and were reduced to 10 men for the final 15 minutes after defender Ubaldino Rigbetti was sent off.

League champions Verona, who held Juventus to a goalless draw in the first leg of the European Cup second round last

Wednesday, beat Milan 1-0 Sunday to move up three places in the table to eighth.

Denmark's Preben Elkjaer scored the winner just two minutes into the game but Milan squandered several chances to equalise.

Former England midfielder Gordon Cowans made his league debut for Bari after breaking his leg in an Italian Cup tie in August and set up his team's opening goal for compatriot and former Aston Villa team-mate Paul Rideout.

Bari went on to beat Lecce 2-0 thanks to a second goal from striker Alberto Bergossi.

A goal in the dying minutes from Argentine Diego Maradona could not save Napoli from their first defeat of the season — a 2-1 defeat by Torino, who took command with goals from Antonio Sabato and Antonio Comi.

Swede Dan Corneliusson scored twice to help Como gain their first win this season, a surprise 4-1 defeat of Avellino.

'We are not dead yet,' say K.C. players

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) — Winning pitcher Dan Quisenberry, rarely at a loss for words, found it hard to describe how the Kansas City Royals pulled off the game 6 victory that kept them alive in the U.S. Major League Baseball World Series.

"The sword has swooped down to give us all haircut. But it hasn't lopped off our heads yet," said Quisenberry, who worked one and one-third innings of relief as the Royals beat the St. Louis Cardinals 2-1 Saturday night and pushed the series to a seventh game.

The Royals' Charlie Leibrandt and the Cards' Danny Cox were locked in a shutout duel until the eighth inning, when Brian Harper's two-out, pinch-hit single scored Terry Pendleton to put the Cardinals ahead 1-0.

But the Royals rallied as Jorge Orta and Steven Balboni singled and, after a passed ball and a fielder's choice, Dane Iorg, pinch hitting for Quisenberry, singled to

right to score the tying and winning runs.

"It certainly is strange how things have gone all year for the Kansas City Royals," he said.

A victory in the seventh game will make the Royals, who recovered from a 3-1 deficit against Toronto in the American League playoffs, only the fifth team since the World Series began to win after falling behind three games to one.

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Australia routs Taiwan in qualifier

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Midfielder Zarko Odzakovic and striker John Kosmina each scored three goals as Australia whipped Taiwan 8-0 in an Oceania Group World Cup soccer qualifying match Sunday. Australia led 1-0 at halftime and scored seven times after the interval. Australia now leads the Oceania Group by one point from New Zealand. Those two teams meet in Sydney next Sunday with the winner qualifying to play against Scotland for a place in the finals in Mexico next year.

20th game poses little threat to Kasparov

MOSCOW (R) — Experts said challenger Garry Kasparov should have no serious difficulty in obtaining a draw in the 20th game of his world chess title rematch with champion Anatoly Karpov which resumed Sunday. However, sources close to Karpov said he would continue to press for an urgently needed victory as long as there was any hope left. Karpov, trailing 8½ to 10½ in the 24 game series, must pursue every avenue to hold on to his title, with the rule saying a 12-12 tie would confirm him as the world number one giving him a slim chance.

Europe to introduce doping controls

OSLO (R) — The European Athletics Association (EAA) will introduce compulsory doping controls at all international meetings in Europe from next year following a call from its president for a crackdown on drug abuse. The EAA adopted the proposal unanimously at its annual congress here Sunday. East Germany abstained from the vote. EAA President Sir Arthur Gold Saturday attacked the use of drugs by athletes, saying international organisations were not taking the issue seriously enough.

Indian leads Himalayan Rally

MUSSOORIE, India (AP) — Rajiv Khanna of India, piloting an Opel Manta, maintained his lead Sunday after two legs of the Himalayan Rally, but defending champion Jayant Shah of Kenya surged back into contention. Khanna, racing for a Kenyan entry, pulled into this mountain resort with 150 penalty points to hold the top spot more than halfway through the 3,200 kilometre race through the foothills of the world's tallest mountain range. Ross Dunkerton of Australia, driving a Subaru, stayed in second place with 282 penalty points. Shah, winner of the last three Himalayan Rallies, guided his Nissan 240RS from 11th place to third with 361 points.

Werder stays atop W. German 1st division

BONN (R) — Werder Bremen kept their two-point lead at the top of the West German soccer first division Saturday but a wobbly defence and the absence of striker Rudi Voeller provided moments of anxiety.

Werder battled to a 4-2 win against second-from-the-bottom Borussia Dortmund which owed more to good luck and an equally shaky Dortmund defence than to the performance expected from the pacemakers.

Mixups in the Bremen defence and gaps in the midfield allowed Dortmund to score shortly before halftime and draw level at 2-2

immediately afterwards.

Strikers Frank Neubarth and Frank Ordenewitz, exploiting Dortmund lapses, protected Werder's unbeaten home record with two goals each. But Voeller, sidelined for three weeks by injury, was sorely missed.

Borussia Moenchengladbach beat Kaiserslautern 3-0 to stay in second place and Bayern Munich moved into third spot, three points adrift of the leaders, with an easy 3-0 home win over struggling Eintracht Frankfurt.

Defender Wilfried Hannes put Borussia ahead with a short tap through the leaky Kaiserslautern

defence in the 13th minute and added the second from the penalty spot 15 minutes from the finish.

Substitute Hans-Joerg Cries sealed success with a late headed goal.

At Munich, Roland Wolfarth put the respectable gloss over Bayern's average performance, scoring twice and setting up Frank Lerby for the third.

Former champions Stuttgart surprisingly crashed 4-0 to Bochum, a point behind them in ninth spot, on a day when the Bundesliga had its thinnest crowds of the year — 154,000 turned out for the eight games.

Scottish striker worth every penny

By Robert Woodward Reuters

LONDON — Frank McAvennie, a goal-hungry striker from the same area of Glasgow as Kenny Dalglish, has revived Londoners' faith in expensive Scottish soccer imports.

The 24-year-old forward has scored 12 goals in his first 13 League games for West Ham, making him the first division's most prolific scorer this season.

This virtuoso performance has helped West Ham string together an unbeaten run of 11 games, and has also provoked envious glances from the fans of rival London club Arsenal.

In the summer of 1983 Arsenal splashed out \$1 million for the wonderboy of Scottish soccer, Charlie Nicholas, who had just hit 52 goals in one season for Glasgow Celtic.

Two years later the "gunners" are still waiting for more than the occasional glimpse of the Nicholas magic, and many fans believe boardroom dissatisfaction with "champagne Charlie" could lead to his departure from Highbury before the season's end.

Unlike Nicholas, whose natural skills were always going to guarantee him a place in a top-class side, the alternative to soccer for McAvennie was the unemployment queue.

For four years McAvennie sur-

vived, like many in the tough Milton area of Glasgow, by taking any part-time job that came along including those of waiter, decorator and road digger.

He also joined Britain's part-time Territorial Army but was not a great success as he found he could not shoot straight.

Working on Saturday afternoons meant the teenager at one time did not kick a soccer ball for over two years and, at 20, he felt his chance of making a living in soccer had passed.

But after a consistent spell in a junior side he attracted Scottish premier league side St. Mirren who signed him in 1980.

"I know if I hadn't made it in football, there's only one place I would be in Glasgow, on the dole (unemployment benefit)."

"When you have experienced all that, it makes you all the more determined to make the most of a chance to better yourself. It makes you hungrier to be successful," McAvennie said.

This appetite for success led the blond-haired Scot to play three times for Scotland at under-21 level and become St. Mirren's top scorer last season with 16 league goals.

"I'd definitely place Frank in the same category as Scottish soc-

cer exports like Dalglish, Nicholas and Gordon Strachan," says St. Mirren manager Alex Miller, who could not refuse West Ham's \$480,000 offer for his club's star forward.

West Ham have seen their faith repaid in devastating style as McAvennie made a mockery of the English assumption that Scottish players need time to adjust to the speed of the game south of the border.

He scored two goals against Liverpool, one against England goalkeeper Peter Shilton and another two in last weekend's 4-1 thrashing of Aston Villa.

"He's a natural goalscorer and he's an entertainer at a time when there are not many of them in the game," says West Ham manager John Lyall.

"I think the best compliment I can pay him is that, if he wasn't my player, I would pay to watch him," Lyall adds.

Many "Hammers" fans believe McAvennie could be the club's most consistent goalscorer since Geoff Hurst, England's hat-trick hero in their 1966 World Cup final victory, while others have started to compare the stocky players' hawkish qualities in front of goal with those of the great Denis Law.

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Filipinos march on presidential palace to protest against killings

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — About 7,000 farmers and students marched to President Ferdinand Marcos' palace Sunday and burned effigies of him and of a fictional symbol representing the United States, Uncle Sam.

The protesters were unable to reach Malacanang Palace, however, as they were blocked by two firetrucks and a barricade of barbed wire on Mendiola Bridge, 300 metres from the palace gates.

Only a handful of soldiers were deployed behind the barricade, but scores of riot police stood at the ready on a side street a block away.

The demonstrators were protesting the killing last Monday of two youths during another anti-government demonstration. For an hour, they denounced Mr. Marcos along with U.S. support for his 20-year rule.

Lean Alejandro, a student leader and secretary general of a leftist organisation called Bayan (country), called Manila police

Chief Brig.-Gen. Narciso Cabrera, who watched from a distance, "a demon worse than the devil himself."

"How many people have his policemen killed?" Alejandro asked in Tagalog. "We say to the police, 'your day will come. We don't know how to forgive.' We will make them all pay...."

"But we can only win by militant action, and we will not only avenge the lives of those who have been killed, but also democracy."

The other speakers included opposition assemblyman Homobono Adaza, who called for unity among Mr. Marcos' opponents, saying that with it, "the Marcos regime is not going to last much longer."

The protesters marched to the

palace behind a jeep carrying the body of Emmanuel Lazo, 17, who was killed in last Monday's clash with police after what started out as a peaceful demonstration.

A second demonstrator, Danilo Valcos, 18, died Saturday, of a gunshot wound in the head.

After the speeches, a man shouted through a microphone, "Avenge Emmanuel Lazo!" and the crowd responded, "Avenge him."

The chant was repeated for Valcos, whose parents took his body home to their province Saturday night.

Before marching on to a Manila suburb for a motorcade to take Lazo's body to his home province of Nueva Ecija, north of the capital, the protesters raised clenched fists as the effigies of Mr. Marcos and Uncle Sam were placed atop the barbed wire.

They broke into loud applause as someone poured gasoline over the effigies and set them ablaze.

Many of the protesters arrived

in Manila from outlying provinces Saturday night and spent the night at the Malate Catholic Church, where they kept vigil over Lazo's body.

After a memorial service, the protesters set out for the palace at noon, passing by the Manila Police Headquarters and the intersection where Monday's clash occurred.

Gen. Cabrera told reporters that the protest was illegal because the organisers did not have an official permit, but police would not interfere so long as it remained peaceful.

"We are ready to enforce the law should there be any disorder," Gen. Cabrera added. "Let there be no mistake about that."

The march came five days after Mr. Marcos signed a new law prohibiting police from bringing their guns to crowd-control assignments but keeping bridges and major streets off-limits to demonstrators.

S. African protests hit new heights

CAPE TOWN (R) — Three black men were killed and two policemen injured by gunfire in a resurgence of South African protests overnight.

Police said two men were killed when police fired shotguns at a crowd stoning patrols in Zwille black township near Port Elizabeth in the eastern Cape.

A black man's body was found after police fired shotguns and teargas at a crowd stoning police vehicles near Langa township at Cape Town, a spokesman said.

Two policemen were injured at Beaufort West in Cape province when someone in a crowd stoning and petrol-bombing a patrol fired a gun, a rare occurrence in 20 months of protests that has claimed more than 780 lives nationwide.

Police Saturday night reported three more deaths in non-white townships on the first day of emergency rule in Cape Town.

They said two black men were shot dead Saturday in the Cape province and another found burnt to death — a fate generally reserved for those seen in the townships as collaborating with white minority rule.

Meanwhile Nobel Peace laureate Bishop Desmond Tutu said Saturday he feared "horrendous" things could happen in Soweto after the South African government banned journalists from Johannesburg's black satellite city.

When asked at a news conference here about the ban, which was imposed Saturday, he said it "means that things are going to be quite horrendous. I think I mean you should assume that it's going to be very bad. If it can be so bad when the press is around, how much more when the press is not?"

He also said he was surprised that the recent extension of the state of emergency in South Africa had taken so long.

"I am surprised why they took so long. But it is an admission by the government that they are not in control," he said.

He also said "members of the press have a tremendous role to play and we in South Africa know this very well at the present time just how important a role you have been playing in making the world know what is happening at home."

"There has been an extraordinary turnaround in fact in the kind of coverage that our country has been receiving."

Bishop Tutu was in New York to announce a fund-raising drive for his Bishop Desmond Tutu Scholarship Fund for southern African refugees, which he founded in late 1984 shortly after receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

Bonn prosecutor urges crackdown on rioters

BONN (R) — West German federal prosecutor Kurt Rebmann called Sunday for a crackdown on violent demonstrators and urged better protection for riot-weary police.

A wave of street disorders which swept through West German cities last month caused millions of marks (dollars) worth of damage and injured scores of demonstrators and police.

They were sparked by the death of Guester Sare, an anti-fascist protester crushed under a police water cannon truck in the city of Frankfurt in circumstances now under inquiry.

In several major cities, police were repeatedly attacked by masked, helmeted and leather-clad "chaotics" — gangs of masked youths who regularly set off violence on the fringes of authorised political demonstrations.

Mr. Rebmann said the troublemakers numbered only a few hundred and were not demonstrators but criminals. He told a radio interviewer that wearing masks should be made a crime, so the ringleaders could be identified and charged.

Quick trials and stiff sentences were needed, he said.

The authoritative liberal weekly *Die Zeit* said anyone firing ball-bearings at police with catapults should be charged with attempted murder.

In a West Berlin protest against unemployment last week, trade unionists ripped the masks off youths attacking police and held their faces up to television news cameras.

The rioting has also spotlighted discontent among police, who held their own protest march in Mainz recently against long hours, low pay and frequent spells of dangerous riot duty.

They do not deny using excessive force occasionally in controlling demonstrations but say they are grossly overworked.

"Every year our police work 10 million hours of overtime," Police Union leader Guenter Schroeder said. He wants better pay and conditions for his members and more police recruitment.

The federal prosecutor, whose Karlsruhe headquarters is also involved in fighting espionage, called for stiffer sentences too for spies and foreign agents, who he said get off comparatively lightly in comparison with terrorists and drug smugglers.

Portugal's PSD leader plans small cabinet

LISBON (R) — Portuguese Social Democrat (PSD) leader Anibal Cavaco Silva plans a streamlined cabinet of about a dozen ministers for the country's 16th government since the 1974 revolution, political sources said Sunday.

But the main problem before the 46-year-old victor of the Oct. 6 general elections is how to win parliamentary approval of his single-party government and programme when the PSD holds only 88 of the 250 seats in the new assembly.

Official election results, delayed by a series of technical problems, are expected to be published in the government gazette Monday, clearing the way for President Antonio Ramalho Eanes to begin consultation on forming a new government.

Present plans are for Mr. Eanes to meet all party leaders except the PSD Monday and then nominate Mr. Cavaco Silva as prime

minister-designate on Tuesday. According to the still tentative schedule Mr. Cavaco Silva would present his government and programme to parliament a week later, probably on Nov. 5.

The Socialists of outgoing Prime Minister Mario Soares, beaten into second place in the elections and with their parliamentary strength at 57 seats almost halved, have promised constructive opposition to their former coalition partners.

Mr. Cavaco Silva can expect hostility from the hard-line Communist Party, overtaken as third largest party three weeks ago by the New Democratic Renewal Party (PRD) formed by supporters of outgoing President Eanes. The PRD, with 45 seats compared with the Communists' 38, will probably decide on their attitude to the new government in parliament.

Gunmen kidnap senior Salvadorean army officer

SAN SALVADOR (R) — A group of heavily armed men have abducted a senior Salvadorean military officer from his home. President Jose Napoleon Duarte said.

The kidnapping came just two days after Duarte's eldest daughter, 36-year-old Ines Guadalupe Duarte Duran, was released by leftist rebels after six weeks in captivity.

An army spokesman told Reuters that 10 armed men, presumed to be leftists, dragged air force Col. Omar Napoleon Avalos away from his children at the family farmhouse near the town of Cojutepeque 32 kilometres east of here.

Col. Avalos, former head of the presidential military staff under Mr. Duarte, is director of the Civil Aeronautics Board, which controls the country's air traffic.

To gain the release of his daughter and 23 municipal officials also kidnapped by the rebels, Mr. Duarte agreed to free 21 rebels from government jails and gave safe passage to some 100 badly wounded guerrillas out of El Salvador.

The rebels hailed the deal as their greatest human rights victory in six years of war.

Although the military as an institution supported Mr. Duarte's decisions, many officials privately opposed the negotiations and the exchange of the rebels, fearing that once their demands were met the guerrillas would embark on a wave of kidnappings.

"This worsens an already bad situation," one senior official said. Mr. Duarte told reporters Col. Avalos' abduction showed the guerrillas were willing to use "terrorism" to fight El Salvador's U.S.-backed government.

"They (the guerrillas) have lost reason, they have lost the war and they are willing to do things that show that they do not care what the world thinks," he said.

Mr. Duarte said he had already named a commission to handle Col. Avalos' kidnapping but gave no details.

Mr. Duarte added that he did not believe the way he handled his daughter's kidnapping would lead to more guerrilla abductions.

France explodes second nuclear device at Mururoa

AUCKLAND (R) — France has carried out another nuclear test in the South Pacific after suppressing protests by militant ecologists who said they feared one of their boats would be confiscated.

Acting Prime Minister Geoffrey Palmer, announcing the latest test, heaped fresh scorn on the French government, which has vowed to press on with its tests at Mururoa atoll.

He said the test conducted at 1630 GMT on Saturday was monitored by New Zealand scientists on the Cook Islands, who estimated its yield at between 12 and 14 kilotonnes, slightly more powerful than the device exploded in a blaze of publicity on Thursday.

At the same time, the Greenpeace environmental group said it feared its protest yacht *Vega*, seized by French commandos and towed into Mururoa lagoon three hours before Thursday's test, would be confiscated.

The ocean-going tug *Greennpeace*, flagship of the Mururoa flotilla since its predecessor the *Rainbow Warrior* was sunk by French agents in New Zealand in July, slipped into Auckland Harbour under heavy security after being forced to abandon its mission.

by mechanical trouble.

Mr. Palmer, calling the tests the greatest irritant in relations between the two countries, said Wellington had lodged a protest through its Paris ambassador.

"This second explosion in the series of French tests is as unacceptable to the New Zealand government as the first," Mr. Palmer said.

"The biggest contribution France could make to the security of the Pacific would be to stop testing altogether," he added.

Greenpeace Director Steve Sawyer told Reuters the organisation had received no word from French authorities about the *Vega* or its crew of two men and two women.

The yacht was arrested after it entered the prohibited 12-mile zone around Mururoa.

Mr. Sawyer said the Canadian-registered, New Zealand-based yacht's fourth voyage to Mururoa could be its last.

"After it was arrested in 1982 it took us about a year to get it back," he said. "I don't know what's going to happen this time, but realistically there is obviously a good chance that we won't see it again."

Column

Diana's stepmother body-searched

LONDON (AP) — Princess Diana's stepmother, Countess Raine Spencer, was body-searched at London's Heathrow Airport, according to the Sunday Express, despite her protests and exclamations to security guards: "Do you know who I am?" The incident was confirmed by Gary May, public relations manager of the British Airports Authority. "She was not very understanding," he said. The guards said that while all hand luggage goes through X-ray machines, they randomly search 10 per cent of passengers leaving Britain. The incident occurred Wednesday, the newspaper said, as the countess was on her way to board an aircraft to Paris. It said she twice refused to be searched before two senior security officers were called and insisted on it. The countess, 56, was told that she wouldn't be allowed on the flight unless she consented, and she was then led to a cubicle by a woman officer and frisked. The countess is the daughter of romantic novelist Barbara Cartland and acquired her title by marriage. Earl Spencer, Princess Diana's father, refused to discuss the incident with telephone callers.

Experts predict bright future for China

PEKING (R) — Experts asked by the government to forecast conditions in China by the end of the century said the country would be prosperous, strong, and politically stable with healthy, happy citizens. The People's Daily said the experts predicted a population increase from one billion to 1.2 billion by 2000. They also forecast China would progress from eighth to fifth or sixth place among the world's most economically powerful countries. "Traditional ideas will undergo great changes and Socialist spiritual civilisation will be greatly strengthened," it said. "The experts believe that by the year 2000 China will have become a politically stable, economically prosperous, strong Socialist nation with healthy, happy citizens," the paper added.

Mother Teresa denounces abortion

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations honoured Mother Teresa of Calcutta and heard her denounce abortion as a greater threat to peace than nuclear arms. "We are afraid of the nuclear (threat) because it touches us but abortion is the greatest destroyer of peace, of the unprotected," she said. Mother Teresa was at the U.N. for the premiere of a film about her life and work. As she walked to the podium, the audience rose to its feet to applaud the Nobel laureate who is famous for her work, particularly among the poor of India. "Holiness is not a special quality but a duty of us all... how does peace come? Through works of love," she said. "We are all the same, children of the same loving God."

Islamic ideals to be used to fight AIDS

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Health Ministry officials and medical experts have said that they would enlist Islamic teachings against sexual promiscuity in the fight against AIDS. Details of the programme were not released, and no AIDS victims have yet been detected in Bangladesh. But authorities said they are concerned because of the discovery of a case in Pakistan last month. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is an incurable and often fatal condition transmitted through sexual contact, blood transfusions and other means.

New French phone system almost works

PARIS (AP) — The majority of the French public adapted immediately to the new system of telephoning Saturday, less than 24 hours after every phone number in the nation was changed. But 15 per cent of telephone calls being placed were wrong numbers, according to a poll. And the burden of the error was falling on the police, fire department and rescue services, who were being deluged with incorrect calls, according to the telephone company. "Passage to the new numbering system is a technical success which surpassed our hopes," said a statement issued by the postal and telecommunications authority, the PTT.

Tamils accuse ceasefire team of being ineffective

NEW DELHI (R) — A Tamil separatist group has accused the team observing a ceasefire between Tamil guerrillas and security forces in Sri Lanka of being ineffective, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said Sunday.

The news agency quoted the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (ENLF) as saying in the southern Indian city of Madras there had been numerous true violations by the Sri Lankan army but the monitoring committee was unable to stop them.

Large scale arrests of Tamils and search operations barred under the ceasefire were continuing, the ENLF said.

The 11-member monitoring committee includes two people

nominated by Tamil militants. It was set up by the government to observe the new ceasefire which started on Oct. 10.

Official sources in Colombo said six guerrillas were killed on Friday in a clash with security forces in northern Vavuniya district. Three soldiers were killed in a guerrilla attack on Thursday.

Parliament on Friday extended a state of emergency for a month to give security forces more powers against guerrillas attack on Thursday.

Parliament on Friday extended a state of emergency for a month to give security forces more powers against guerrillas fighting for a separate state for the island's Tamil minority.

Charles, Diana get warm welcome in Australia

MELBOURNE (R) — Britain's Prince Charles and his wife Princess Diana arrived on an official visit to Australia Sunday and had a warm welcome from the country's enduring affection for royalty.

Hundreds of well-wishers delayed the couple at Melbourne airport, shaking hands and chatting following the pomp of a full ceremonial welcome, including a 21-gun salute.

The prince and princess, who are on a 10-day visit to the state of Victoria to mark its 150th anniversary, were met by the British queen's representative in Australia, Governor-General Sir Ninian Stephen.

But after an inspection of a guard of honour and introductions to a score of dignitaries, the prince walked to the crowd, many of them children, who were lining the route along the tarmac.

Princess Diana joined him and one excited man kissed her forehead hand instead of shaking it. "It seemed the right thing to do at the time. She was a bit amazed," Charles Opyrchal, 29, told reporters.

The prince and the princess, her arms filled with flowers, were driven to government house in Melbourne which they will use as their headquarters for a busy schedule which includes flying visits to a number of country towns.

The couple, who last visited Australia two years ago, have arrived in Victoria in the shadow of the resignation of its governor in a bitter row over accepting free travel.

But there was no hint of the political storm when the couple touched down in bright sunshine in an Australian Air Force Boeing 707.

Victoria's Labour Premier Sir John Cain had earlier declined at a press conference to estimate the cost of the royal tour. Left-wing parliamentarians in Victoria had threatened to boycott a state reception Monday because they said the money should go to the poor.

"I don't see it in terms of cost — I see it rather as an occasion that Victorians are enjoying... they like royal tours, they like the royal presence," he said.

Gandhi ends Moscow visit after Kremlin talks

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi returned home from Moscow Sunday and said recent Soviet proposals on disarmament were very good and deserved serious consideration.

Mr. Gandhi, present leader of the Non-Aligned Movement, denied playing the role of mediator between the United States and the Soviet Union during his stop in Moscow at the end of a two week foreign tour.

He said the Moscow trip was planned before he left India and reports that it was an unscheduled stop were due to "confusion" about the date.

Mr. Gandhi singled out Indian and Soviet concern about Pakistan's "nuclear weapons programme" as one of the subjects discussed with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

He told reporters suggestions made by Mr. Gorbachev about cutbacks in arms, including bans on space weapons, ahead of the Nov. 19-20 summit meeting with President Ronald Reagan, were "very positive."

Summing up India's relations with the Soviet Union and the United States after his talks with Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Reagan during the past week, Mr. Gandhi said India and the Soviet Union had similar views on many things.

"We find the Soviet Union very understanding," Mr. Gandhi said. "With the U.S. we have had good talks on economic cooperation but there are differences, differences on Pakistan's nuclear weapons programme. There are also differences on basic human issues like South Africa."

Mr. Gandhi said after discussing Pakistan's nuclear programme with Mr. Reagan, Mr. Gorbachev and Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq he was still unconvinced the programme was solely for peaceful purposes.

"I talked with President Zia about the nuclear problem and although he did assure me that he does not have a nuclear weapons programme I am not totally convinced about that assurance," Mr. Gandhi said.

"They (Soviet Union) were also concerned about the development of nuclear weapons in Pakistan, as they were about Israel and South Africa's nuclear programmes," he added.

It was Mr. Gandhi's third visit to Moscow since Mr. Gorbachev took power last March.

Diplomats said the trip may have been intended to balance the meetings Mr. Gandhi had with Western leaders during his foreign tour, which included a visit to the United States.

But some diplomats saw little need for the Soviet Union to be reassured of Indian non-alignment and desire for good relations with Moscow, speculating there was a more pressing reason for the visit.

One possible issue meriting the quick trip was the Afghan war, in which Soviet troops and Afghan government forces are fighting Muslim rebels, the diplomats said.

China enters satellite launch business

PEKING (R) — China said Sunday it had entered the commercial satellite launch business, offering out price rates in competition with the U.S. space shuttle and the European Ariane rocket.

The official People's Daily quoted Space Industry Minister Li Xu's said China's successful launch and recovery of a satellite earlier this month had set the stage for commercial operations.

"We are offering low prices and insurance rates," he said.

Mr. Li said the latest satellite launch was the seventh successful test of the "Long March 2" rockets developed in the mid-1970s.

"Seven successful satellite launches in a row proves the type of rocket is relatively reliable and good at placing satellites in orbit."

"We have decided to put both

U.S. officials board Soviet freighter, talk with sailor who tried to jump ship

NEW ORLEANS (Agencies) — U.S. State Department officials boarded a Soviet grain ship in the Mississippi River and talked with a young sailor who tried to jump ship in an apparent effort to defect, a spokesman for the freighter's agent said.

Border patrol agents thought the sailor was a stowaway and returned him to his ship, the Marshall Konyev.

The spokesman, who would not allow his name to be used, told the Times-Picayune newspaper that a State Department interpreter boarded the ship, and State Department officials talked to the sailor.

He did not provide details of the conversation.

State Department officials kept watch on the freighter from a boat launch on the levee near where the Marshall Konyev was anchored in the Mississippi River.

Pete Martinez, a spokesman for the State Department, said U.S. officials wanted to interview the sailor in an environment where he could speak freely.

The sailor "may not wish to depart with his ship," said Charles

Redman, another State Department spokesman, adding that "we are now seeking to determine his intentions."

Mr. Martinez and Mr. Redman were interviewed by telephone from Washington D.C.

The unidentified seaman jumped into the river Friday while the ship was under way and swam ashore in an attempt to defect, but was inadvertently returned to the boat by border patrol agents who could not communicate with him and thought he was a stowaway, said David H. Lambert, district director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service.

"The border patrol didn't understand what was going on and didn't realise he was trying to defect and brought him back to the ship," Mr. Lambert said in an interview with a newspaper, the Times Picayune.

The grain ship remained at anchor Saturday at Belle Chasse, a small port town downriver from New Orleans, but Mr. Redman refused to say whether it was being held there.

"The Soviet ship is free to leave when we have satisfied ourselves

about this individual's intent," he said.

Mr. Redman said a State Department official and a Soviet embassy representative were in New Orleans and that the department wanted to speak to the sailor.

"We will do what we always do in such cases, we will interview him in an environment where he can express his will," Mr. Redman said.

The vessel arrived in the New Orleans area on Thursday and was expected to take on a load of grain upriver at reserve on Sunday.

The incident bore similarities to one in 1970, when Simas Kudirkas, a Lithuanian sailor, tried to defect by jumping ship onto a coast guard vessel off Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

The coast guard skipper allowed Soviet sailors to drag the man back to their ship, in an action that led to new U.S. government guidelines to aid potential defectors.

Kudirkas was sentenced to 10 years in prison but was released in 1974 and allowed to come to the United States.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK1093 ♥8 054 ♦Q9632
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—You have a hand rich in trick-taking possibilities, so we would not blame you if leaped right to four spades. However, if you are more scientifically inclined you should make the trial bid of three clubs, asking partner to evaluate his holding in that suit for game purposes.

Q2.—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K1075 ♥93 085 ♦A984
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—Had partner been interested in your spade suit, he could have made a takeout double. While he should have a reasonable hand for his vulnerable overall, the fact you don't have a good fit makes any action on your part risky. Pass.

Q3.—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q ♥K105 ♦J76 ♣Q98732
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ 3 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—Your two club response to the takeout double promised nothing. By raising to three clubs, partner has shown a useful hand in the 16-18 range. You should have fair play for three no trump, so go ahead and bid it.

Q4.—Both vulnerable, as South you

hold:
♠72 ♥95 ♦Q10954 ♣AKQ3
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—With the equivalent of an opening bid facing a partner who has opened and jumped raised, you are in the slam zone. But you can't do anything precipitate because of your weakness in the major suits. Cue-bid five clubs and see if that inspires partner to seize the initiative.